

Hafa Adai!

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POLL RESULTS

Do you fully understand CUC's explanation why it is asking for an increase in its electric base rates?

Yes	17
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Sunday, April 10, 2011

INSIDE



Kite Festival

Kites in various designs, colors and sizes dot the clear blue skies over the American Memorial Park.

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Old Planes

Most travelers don't think twice about it but how old is too old for an airplane?

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New Visit

Prime Minister Naoto Kan pays another visit to Japan's tsunami-devastated coast.

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FOR CNMI TOURISM PROMOTION

\$15 fee eyed for non-US visitors

» Incentive expanded to include Southeast Asian cities

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A draft Fital administration-sponsored bill amending the two-month-old law that created the Japan Air Service Stabilization Program will charge passengers originating from non-U.S. countries an additional \$15 "travel and promotion fee."

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Georgetown: Electric base rate increase not necessary

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The consultant for the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission is opposing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s bid

to increase its electric base rate, saying the adjustment is not necessary at this time as the utility firm had understated or used "too low" base rate revenues in its rate hike petition.

See **ELECTRIC** on **Page 4**

MHS glee club wins CNMI's first choral competition



By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The singing prowess of "Rhythm 'n Harmony," Marianas High School's glee club, got the approving nod of judges to become the first winner of the Saipan Public High School Choral Competition and

See **CHORAL** on **Page 4**

Members of the Marianas High School Glee Club "Rhythm 'n Harmony" are all smiles after being declared the winner of the inaugural Saipan Public High School Choral Competition and Concert last Friday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The 16-member team will participate in the 2011 Thespians Festival to be held in Nebraska this June. With the members is their adviser, Melissa Duffy.

CLARISSA DAVID

30 Marpi power poles installed, no sign of halting project

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
One of the new power poles being installed in the Marpi area.

» Sablan says landowners near cemeteries may benefit

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

At least 30 power poles out of an estimated 43 have been installed in Marpi as of Friday, and there's no indication that the government will halt the project anytime soon as the Friends of Marpi would have wanted.

Friends of Marpi's Tina Sablan also said yesterday that landowners or property owners near the Marpi public cemetery, the Veterans Cemetery and areas leading to the

See **MARPI** on **Page 4**

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Local

Hundreds turn up for 25th Red Cross walkathon



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Executive director John Hirsh distributes a Red Cross shirt during the 25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon event on April 9.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The public once again showed its unstinting support for the CNMI's premier emergency response organization by turning up in droves for the 25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon Saturday morning on Saipan. Similar walks were also simultaneously held on Tinian and Rota.

Participants, composed mainly of students and their family members, arrived as early as 5:30am for the annual walkathon, which capped the celebration of American Red Cross Month.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Participants of the 25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon are seen under the giant Red Cross sign during the event held April 9 and started at 4-H Building in Susupe.

Saturday's walk began at the 4-H Building in Susupe next to the Civic Center, going all the way to Garapan Fishing Base. Participants had the option, though, to turn around at any of the five stations that were spread out throughout the course.

Each of the 26 school teams had their own registration tables and participants got "Walk This Way" Red Cross shirts at the Red Cross booths.

The annual walkathon's silver anniversary celebration also featured information booths manned by agencies and organizations—coordinated by the Ayuda Network—to educate participants about community issues.

These booths included the Council on Development Disabilities, Napu Life, Public Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Breast and Cervical Screening Program, Community Guidance Center Drug Prevention Unit, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Diabetes Coalition, Foremost, NMC-CREES, and the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.

Volunteers from the NMC Nursing Club and Hardt Eye Clinic also held free health screening

for some 150 participants.

There were game booths and a jumper for kids as well as a petting zoo that featured chicks, rabbits, guinea pigs, and a piglet courtesy of the Saipan Zoo.

Subway, one of the event's main sponsors for the third straight year, treated participants to free healthy refreshments. Other sponsors were Coke, Foremost, and Scoops.

John Hirsh, executive director for the NMI Chapter, praised all volunteers, particularly the students who got up early on a Saturday to participate.

"We're just so fortunate that we have the support of PSS and the Board of Education. They appreciate the value of good activities and support good causes other than their own," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Hirsh, the walkathon had a great turnout. "We have such a great community. It's also important to note that this event is also a great way to get out and be with family or friends to enjoy, be healthy, and help a good cause."

Hirsh said the total amount raised from the event will be tallied and those who will receive prizes for raising the most money will be announced in coming days.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Zoo's Isabel Bulong holds a guinea pig at the petting zoo booth during the 25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon event Saturday.



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WASC team to visit NMC this week

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

A team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges is expected to be on island this week for a special visit and inspection of the Northern Marianas College.

NMC Board of Regents chair Juan Lizama disclosed this Thursday during a special meeting, saying the visit will take

place on April 13.

Saipan Tribune learned that the five-member team will validate the contents of the report the college submitted to WASC on March 15 relating to the continued show-cause status imposed by the commission on the college.

The visit is for two days, April 13 to 14.

Besides meeting with various governance councils in

the college community, NMC sources indicated that the visitors are also slated to meet select members of the Board of Regents.

NMC is still required to submit a supplemental report to the commission before the June 2011 assembly of WASC. It was learned that accredited colleges have the option to submit a supplemental report and the college opted to do so and will turned one in to the commission.

WASC is expected to render a decision after its June assembly whether to retain or lift the college's show-cause status.

The college was placed on continued show-cause status in January this year after failing to address some WASC recommendations.

Man who threatened family with suicide murder gets 7-day term

A man who threatened to kill his wife and their children in a suicide murder was sentenced to seven days in prison.

David P. Diaz Jr., 28, pleaded guilty to assault and battery and disturbing the peace as part of a plea deal.

In a written order issued last week, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Diaz to one year in prison, all suspended except for seven days, with credit for time served. That means Diaz will no longer serve further jail time.

Wiseman said it appears in this case that Diaz was restricted in a family court matter from having contact with his wife; however, he was allowed to talk to their children, which he was doing and when finished the victim got on the phone and they spoke together.

"He [Diaz] told her he loves her and made some threatening emotional statements directed at her, himself, and the family," the judge said.

Wiseman said Diaz has no criminal history, has accepted responsibility for his actions, has spent seven days in jail and will be on probation for an extended period during which he will undergo counseling.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Diaz with assault, disturbing the peace, criminal contempt, and violating an order of protection. For pleading guilty to assault and criminal contempt, the government agreed to drop the remaining charges.

Diaz threatened his wife on Dec. 10, 2010, saying he kill her and her children, in a suicide murder. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Fisherman refuses to give up and brings case to 9th Circuit

The fisherman who was awarded \$3,600 in damages by the federal court for injuries he sustained after being run over by a motorboat in 2007 is appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Pedro Pangelinan Pinault, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week about his appeal to the Ninth Circuit that seeks to reverse the federal court's judgment.

Horey said the principal issues that will be raised on appeal are contributory negligence and calculation of damages.

The lawyer said the federal court did issue a judgment in favor of Pinault, but the court reduced the damages for contributory negligence.

The lawsuit arose from an in-

cident on Aug. 25, 2007, when a boat being driven by Banga Bandhu Baidya ran over Pinault, who was swimming and fishing with a sling in the shallow waters off Micro Beach mid-afternoon.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge William Fremming Nielsen had found negligence on the part of Pinault and the defendants Baidya and Baidya's employer, Seahorse Inc. Saipan. The judge determined that Baidya's negligence caused Pinault's injury and directed Baidya and Seahorse to pay Pinault \$3,600 in damages.

Pinault thrice disputed the judge's finding, asserting that the actual duration of his injury was not just six months. The judge stood pat, however, on the matter. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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2009	Hyundai Tucson GL	6,876	\$16,995	2006	Ford Escape XLT	87,769	\$8,995
2008	Hyundai Tucson GL	68,305	\$12,995	2006	Hyundai Tucson GL	92,184	\$7,995
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Bordallo receives award from the Humane Society

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo recently received the Legislative Leader award from the Humane Society of the United States and its affiliate, the Humane Society Legislative Fund, for her leadership on animal protection legislation in

2010. The Congresswoman joins 145 other legislators from the Senate and House—representing 38 states and two territories—who will receive awards for their work in 2010. The Legislative Leader award will recognize Bordallo’s leadership

on legislation to end the cruel and wasteful practice of shark finning; a letter to the President urging support for the longstanding ban on commercial whaling; and legislation to protect other wildlife, including bills to fund conservation programs for

marine turtles, elephants, great apes, rhinoceroses, tigers, and other great cats and rare canids, and to curb the import of non-native wildlife. “The Congress has a responsibility to protect our nation’s wildlife and resources,” said Bordallo. “During my term as the Chairwoman of the Natural Resources Sub-

committee on Insular Affairs, Oceans, and Wildlife, I strove to improve responsible management and conservation of our nation’s wildlife and vital ecosystems. I thank the Humane Society for this honor, and I will continue to work toward enforcing the ethical treatment of all animals.” (PR)

CHORAL

From Page 1

Concert on April 8 at the packed Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Supe.

The glee club, which sang *Seasons of Love* from Broadway musical *Rent*, was pitted against Kagman High School Chorus, which sang *He Lives in You (Reprise)* from *The Lion King*.

The MHS team’s victory Friday night secured them a spot to participate in the 2011 Thespian Festival at the University of Lincoln-Nebraska in

June later this year.

The winning 16-member team is composed of Mark Chester Gonzales, Matthew Lopez, Darren John Cajipo, Nikki Dela Cruz Canape, Richard Ken Matsuyama, Rolando Sangalang, Severino Alforeza III, Vinni Giovanni Orcini, Wincel Mae Bubos, Adrian Tangcoy, Donna Marie Monton, Downen Mae Jocson, Gemmilie Eugenio, Kelly Tenorio Demapan, Kevin Jiro Matsuyama, and Mariel Ferrer.

Melissa Duffy, Alternative Education teacher and the MHS Glee Club adviser, said their victory was unexpected.

“The outcome surprised me because, although I love my kids and I know that they were good and they worked hard and they earned it, Kagman was really good... It was such a toss up,” she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Duffy said the MHS Glee Club, formed in November last year, has 21 members but only 16 were allowed for the competition.

According to Duffy, the group rehearsed for about a month and a half. “For them to do this much in a month and a half is unbelievable,” she added.

The group will also perform *Seasons of Love* during the Thespian Festival on

June 20 to 25, Duffy said.

“We’re just going to make it better because it’s only 10 weeks away. To learn a new song would be too much stress on them when they have their finals and all other things,” she explained.

Despite not advertising the event as much, the turnout proves that the island wants choral music, according to Duffy.

“A population wants to see it and a population wants to do it. All we need is the support from the principals and the [Public School System],” she said.

MHS teacher and National Forensic League chair Harold Easton, during his remarks Friday, urged the community to support chorale singing in public schools in the CNMI.

“It’s a long time coming. Hopefully, this will be a good kick start to move in that direction,” he said.

The MHS Glee Club Rhythm ‘n Harmony also brought home a trophy donated by Friends of the Arts, which will be passed on to every winning team in coming years.

FOA representative Frank Gibson commended all the students who worked hard for the competition. “We look forward to an even better show next year,” he said.

The judges were FOA’s Paul Dujua, Allen Cuyugan, and Keri Uhl.

Glitch

Friday night’s announcement of winners encountered a glitch when Kagman Elementary School teacher Angela Wheat called out by mistake Kagman High School as the winning team.

“They’ve all done an awesome job,” said Wheat, adding that she meant to laud KHS Chorus’ efforts but inadvertently announced them winners.

Sixteen-year old Vinni Orsini, a member of the MHS Glee Club, concurred that Kagman would have been a great winner as well.

“But we really went in there, blended with each other, and definitely did our best,” said the MHS senior, who sings bass.

Benefit concert

On the heels of the competition was a benefit concert featuring performances by the MHS Rocketeers and Vocal Explosion, Kagman High Chorus, MHS Chorale, and special guest appearance of “Ms. Strict” played by Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero, an active member of the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands.

About \$300 worth of refreshments were also sold, the proceeds for which will be donated to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter for relief efforts in Japan.

ELECTRIC

From Page 1

Based on CUC’s March 9 electric base rate proposal, CUC amended its revenue requirement to reflect the needed funding for its oil pipeline project, which is part of the stipulated order that CUC must address.

The current CUC proposal is to increase the electric division’s base rate revenue from \$19.9 million to \$28.7 million—an increase of \$8.8 million or 44.2 percent.

But Georgetown Consulting disagrees with the proposal, believing that the \$8.8 million rate increase should be offset by several adjustments. The CPUC consultant cited three areas of adjustments for offsetting: implementing a standby charge, creating a lifeline rate, and including unmetered services and street lighting.

“The base rate revenues kWh consumption assumed with no rate increase used by CUC are too low at \$19.909 million and should be adjusted to \$22.776 million or an increase of \$2.867 million,” said Georgetown in its filing on March 25.

It recommended the implementation of a standby charge of \$5 per kilowatt

per month to customers that self-generate power, such as hotels and retail establishments that rely on the CUC electric power system whenever their generators are unavailable. The imposition of this standby charge would result in additional revenues of \$574,000. Estimated CUC revenue for this area is \$4.9 million annually, or 56 percent of CUC’s base rate increase request of \$8.8 million, Georgetown said.

Georgetown disclosed that about 11 hotels and large establishments had maximum monthly kilowatt-hour usage levels that were 12 times greater than their minimum monthly usage—“a clear indication that these hotels are using CUC to provide standby service.”

Lifeline rate

According to the consultant, CUC should also implement a lifeline rate consistent with its own rules and regulations. It claimed that CUC’s current ultra low initial rate block of \$0.016 per kWh for all customers does not meet the criterion.

“We recommend that the lifeline rate for eligible low income customers be kept at \$0.016 per kWh...and that the rate for all other residential customers be increased to \$0.032 per kWh,” said

Georgetown, adding that the increase in the initial block for usage up to 500 kWh would still be a substantial discount from the next higher residential block rate.

Georgetown estimated that implementing the lifeline rate will result in additional base revenues of \$463,000.

CUC, it added, also failed to include electric base revenues related to unmetered services and street lighting and an estimated additional revenues totaling to \$1.832 million.

The consultant revealed that the estimate for annualized revenues by CUC has been understated by \$2.9 million. An expected \$800,000 grant was also not factored in.

“We do understand that CUC is having a cash shortage and are sympathetic to that problem. Our test year calculations provide for an additional \$1.013 million of cash. The lack of prompt payment by the government compounds this problem and also has the consequence of making credit and loans hard to acquire,” said Georgetown.

CPUC is scheduled today to hear public comments on CUC’s petition before a decision is rendered this month. If the petition is approved, the new electric base rate schedule will take effect on May 11.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill that became PL 17-29, said on Friday that he will be introducing the bill in the next House session.

As of Friday afternoon, House legal counsel John Cool was still reviewing the draft bill from the Fitial administration.

The draft bill renames the trust fund from Japan Air Service Stabilization Trust Fund to “Tourism Air Service Stabilization Fund.”

All references to an initial point of embarkation outside the CNMI will be amended to include “any other city within Southeast Asia that is outside of Japan.”

The draft bill also allows the Finance secretary to withdraw funds first from the Tourism Promotion Revolving Fund then from the general fund if the funds in the Tourism Air Stabilization Trust Fund are insufficient to meet any liabilities of the Trust Fund.

The CNMI government said that the estimated loss to the CNMI economy resulting from the Japan disasters could be \$5 million to \$6 million, and these figures could change in coming weeks or months.

The Marianas Visitors Authority said late last month that over 2,600 tourists from Japan have cancelled their vacations to the CNMI since March 11.

MARPI

From Page 1

cemetery could benefit from the power poles.

Among them is Joaquin M. Manglona, whom Sablan said is a close associate of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, based on maps made available by Friends of Marpi yesterday.

But Sablan said these maps are still subject to further verification by the Department of Public Lands because they are years old and the properties may have changed hands since then.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said if the Capital Improvement Project Office decides to stop the project, “then they will.”

“That’s their jurisdiction. They are simply fulfilling the terms of an approved project,” Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

As of 8pm last night, 259 individuals have already signed an online petition urging the government to stop the installation of power poles in Marpi that they say will destroy the tourist spot’s natural beauty.

Friends of Marpi said the government should have considered alternative power methods such as a standalone power generator or the installation of solar or wind power, so that there won’t be a need to put up power poles.

Demapan said the Fitial administration “will continue to support development for the Commonwealth.”

“The CIP Office is looking into the concerns and recommendations of the protesting organization. In all fairness, what should be said to the thousands who are not part of the petition group?” he asked.

The petition can be viewed at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/keep-marpi-beautiful-----for-tourists-and-residents-alike/>.

Citizens opposed to the installation of the power poles have banded together to form Friends of Marpi.

At least 10 of them met Tuesday night at Wild Bill’s Bar & Grill in Garapan.

The group has partnered with the Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council, which now serve as the fiduciary sponsor for Friends of Marpi and accepts and manages donations in a restricted fund for the latter’s projects.

Sablan, a former member of the House of Representatives, said she met with Jimp Stump, the CIP contracting officer overseeing the Marpi project, late Friday afternoon.

“Mr. Stump indicated that it was not the intent of the CIP Office to create any controversy, and further acknowledged that it would not be too late, nor impossible, for the CNMI government to stop the power pole project now and to submit revised budgets and scopes of work to the Office of Insular Affairs to redirect CIP funds to either put the power lines underground or install renewable energy systems for the Marpi cemetery,” Sablan said.

Nevertheless, at least 30 power poles have already been installed as of Friday afternoon out of approximately 43 power poles reportedly being planned from the cemetery near Banzai Cliff to the main road and on to the Buddhist temple.

Sablan also said that Stump will let Friends of Marpi know by today whether any public hearings had ever been conducted on the Marpi cemetery or on the power project. She said Marpi Point is a National Historic Landmark.

Sablan said Stump would also let the group know “whether the CIP Office would agree to a voluntary moratorium of the project in order to hold public hearings and consider more acceptable alternatives to power poles in Marpi.”

\$15 FEE

From Page 1

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in an interview, said the new \$15 fee will be used to promote travel to the CNMI.

Collections from this new fee will be deposited in a Tourism Promotion Revolving Fund account that the Finance secretary will administer.

It will also be used to “recover costs incurred for enforcement of customs and quarantine laws,” according to the draft bill, a copy of which was obtained Friday afternoon.

Airlines will collect the \$15 travel and promotion fee and remit it to the CNMI government on or before the 15th of each month.

“Part of that funding can also be used to add to the hotel occupancy tax collection to fund the incentive program. With what happened in Japan, I don’t think we’ll be able to collect up to \$6.2 million for the program so this new fee could help with that,” Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

The draft bill says the \$15 travel and promotion fee will be “assessed against the carrier of every arriving passenger whose original point of embarkation is any country other than the United States.”

At this point, however, it is not known whether the new \$15 fee will not be in violation of a federal law on passenger facility charges.

Expansion

The administration’s draft bill will also expand participating tour agents’ target market to avail of the monetary incentive, to include tourists from “any other city within Southeast Asia” such as South Korea and China in the wake of the March 11 Japan quake, tsunami, and nuclear disasters.

Inos said expanding the incentive program to make it available to tour agents bringing in tourists not only from Japan’s Nagoya and Osaka during off-peak periods but from any other Southeast Asian destinations such as “South Korea and China,” is one of the major proposed amendments to Public Law 17-29.

PL 17-29, signed by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Feb. 16, 2011, seeks to keep more flights operational year-round to the CNMI by earmarking up to \$6.2 million over the next two years to establish the Japan Air Stabilization Program.

Under the law, the monetary incentive will come from 20 percent of the hotel occupancy tax, not to exceed \$6.2 million in calendar year 2011 and 2012.

CUC's major problem: Funding uncertainty for many projects

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Funding uncertainty for several projects remains the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s major challenge that, if not properly addressed, will have a big financial impact on its operation, according to Georgetown Consulting.

The consultant for the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission said in its March 25 report to the commission that CUC is mandated to complete these projects in order to meet the requirements of two stipulated order.

"While CUC has received significant grants for some of these projects, significant additional funds are required to complete the SO projects," the consultant's report stated.

One example is the still unfunded oil pipeline project, which is projected to cost \$2.45 million. CUC has cited this project as one of the reasons for its petition to increase its base rate.

Georgetown said there should also be some "development" on how the government pays its dues to CUC in order for the utility firm to secure its cash flow.

"CUC continues to be in a severe cash flow position. As reported by CUC, payments from the central government and other government agencies are exceptionally slow—analogue to the CNMI government using CUC as a source of its working capital. This issue needs to be resolved to provide much needed cash to CUC," it said.

CUC earlier indicated that it is not in a position to apply for a loan in the financial markets at reasonable rates. This lack of access to the financial markets, Georgetown said, could have a significant impact on requiring a rate increase.

"As a result of neglect to the CUC system over a number of prior years, there are significant numbers of deferred maintenance projects as well as required capital and SO projects that need to be funded. Since this requirement was built up over a number of years it would not be reasonable way to fund the projects and smooth out the rate impact over a number of years that the loan is being repaid," said the consultant, adding that obtaining access to the financial markets at reasonable rates is currently very challenging and must be an immediate and continuing priority to gain such access.

Georgetown also added that the lack of fuel diversity and the current requirement that all generators must use diesel fuel is a significant contributor to the high costs and there is currently no plan to deal with this issue because of all of other higher priorities.

Georgetown's report to the commission was not all doom

and gloom, however. It noted several improvements made by CUC's electric division, including the increased reliability of its generating units on Saipan and Tinian.

Revenue for the electric division has also stabilized, it said, and even shows small positive growth through December 2010.

NWS, EMO warn of hazardous surf

The National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Office yesterday warned residents in the CNMI and Guam that hazardous surf at 7 to 9 feet high is still expected until tonight, Monday.

As this developed, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial strongly advised the public, mariners, and boaters on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to avoid navigating in these conditions.

"If travel is necessary, exercise caution, especially when entering or leaving harbors and inlets, and near reef lines. Wear flotation gear," Fitial said.

The governor also advised people to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches.

A new accounting system is in place, funded by the Office of Insular Affairs, and the CUC and Commonwealth Development Authority debt has already been resolved, it said.

It also lauded the efforts of CUC in securing grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to fund other priority projects.

The Guam-based National Weather Service said the high surf advisory will remain in effect until Monday at 6pm as surf will be hazardous at 7 to 9 feet Sunday night and Monday on north facing reefs.

The Weather Service said that surf is expected to diminish below hazardous levels Monday night.

It said that people should avoid north facing reefs as rip currents will be life threatening.

NWS started issuing the high surf advisory for the CNMI and Guam on Friday as it predicted that surf as high as 13 feet would occur along unobstructed shorelines facing northeast that night. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

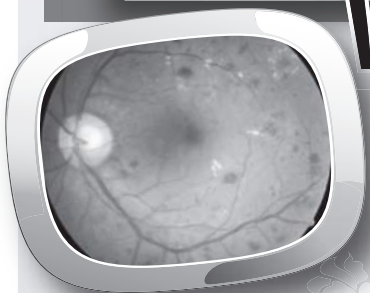
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- Inspect emission control
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- Test battery & clean terminals - Charge if necessary
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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BID
CUC-IFB-11-027

REHABILITATION OF SEWER LIFT STATION NOS. S-2 & S-8

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of Sewer Lift Stations and installation of Force-Main in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of Two (2) Sewer Lift Stations and the installation approximately 1,300 foot of force-main. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work is inclusive of rehabilitation of the wet well, replacement of pumps, guide rails, control panel cleanup of the basins, repair, replacement, rehabilitation of pipeline, pipes, replacement of generator, asphalt paving, etc. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 (nonrefundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **March 28, 2011 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-027, Rehabilitation of Sewer Lift Station Nos. S-2 & S-8" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 14, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00200 - Instructions to Bidders.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 7, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Commander, Robert Lorenz, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email robert_lorenz@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Senate OKs renaming Rota airport after former mayor Manglona

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate passed a bill re-naming the Rota International

Airport the “Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport” in recognition of the former mayor and former lieutenant governor’s services to

Rota and his contributions to the CNMI. The bill has yet to pass the House and signed into law by the governor.

Senate Bill 17-65, introduced by Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), passed

the Senate by a vote of 9-0 on Wednesday night. “Reflecting on the Commonwealth and Rota’s economic, social and political tri-

umphs and struggles over the past 50 years, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona looms prominently among the Commonwealth’s great leaders,” the bill reads.

Manglona served Rota and the CNMI as an engineer, surveyor, clerk, public works officer, a representative, a delegate, a senator, a mayor from 1998 to 2006 and as the CNMI’s third lieutenant governor from 1990 through 1994. He also worked in the private sector as a station manager for Continental Air Micronesia.

He was a member of the Marianas District Legislature in 1963 to 1965, a representative to the Congress of Micronesia in 1965 to 1970, and a member of the Marianas Political Status Commission from Rota in 1972.

As first vice president of the First Constitutional Convention of 1976, Manglona participated in the drafting of the Commonwealth’s Constitution which the Northern Marianas people ratified later and approved by the U.S. president.

The senators said in their bill that Manglona’s “hard work and diligence in securing funds paved the way for the grand opening of the Rota International Airport.”

Just last month, the House adopted Rep. Teresita A. Santos’s (Ind-Rota) resolution paying tribute to Manglona, 73, “for his distinguished career in public office and his exemplary contributions to the CNMI.”


In early 2010, there was also a push to rename the Rota International Airport the “Fidel A. Mendiola International Airport.”

Fidel A. Mendiola was considered among the pioneers who saw the humble beginning of the Rota airport during the Trust Territory time.

In the CNMI, only the Saipan International Airport has been renamed after a prominent leader. A 2002 law made it into the “Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.” Ada is the CNMI’s first lieutenant governor who pioneered the development of the Saipan airport.

As a district administrator in the early 1970s, Ada was instrumental in developing the Saipan International Airport by taking advantage of grants made available by the National Airport Airways Development Act and heeding the advice of a nationally ranked airport consultant for modern terminal facilities. He also spearheaded the formation of an airline technical committee that fostered partnership between the government and the private sector to assist the construction of a new airport.

Ada also had the foresight to establish the Mariana Islands Airport Authority, a self-sustaining agency that later became the Commonwealth Ports Authority.




COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

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Law Office of Vicente T. Salas
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427 • Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff.
vs.
ANTONIO A. ARRIOLA, MARIA M. ARRIOLA, JOSEPH A. ARRIOLA,
A-FAMILIA INC., and U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION,
Defendants.

Civil Action No. 05-0303C
NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, herein referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendant Antonio A. Arriola in the following described, improved, real property situated in Garapan, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:


Land situated in Garapan, Annex II, Saipan Municipality, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, more particularly described as **Lot No. 003 D 08** (formerly Block 1 Lot 8) as shown on the Division of Land Survey Official Cadastral Plat Number 003 D 00, dated February 25, 1971, and containing an area of 1002.12 square meters, including all existing improvements on the real estate, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00pm on Friday, April 15, 2011**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Antonio A. Arriola in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property of its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of March 2011.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



ANTONIO ARRIOLA
LOT NO. 003 D 08

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff.
vs.
EDWARD U. MARATITA and ROSA C. MARATITA,
Defendants.

Civil Action No. 05-0238
NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, herein referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Edward U. Maratita and Rosa C. Maratita in the following described, real property situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Tract No. 22178, situated in Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Survey Plat Number 3017/86, dated June 26, 1986, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

and


Lot No. 007 R 34, situated in Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 928 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing Cadastral Plat No. 1294, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00pm on Friday, April 15, 2011**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:


- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Edward U. Maratita and Rosa C. Maratita in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property of its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of March 2011.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



EDWARD MARATITA
TRACT NO. 22178
I-CHENCHON, ROTA



EDWARD MARATITA
LOT NO. 007 R 34
SONGSONG, ROTA

Alleged bat poacher wants shells sent to Canada expert

One of three alleged fruit bat poachers has asked the federal court to compel the U.S. government to send the collected shotgun shells to his Canada-based tool and firearms identification consultant for inspection and analysis.

Albert Taitano, through counsel Bruce Berline, requested the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the U.S. government to send the shotgun shell evidence via Federal Express to his consultant with a prepaid return voucher.

Berline assured that there is a very little risk the evidence may be lost given the tracking and expertise of Federal Express.

As the consultant is a Canadian citizen, Berline said he may have problems going to Oregon and "working" with their lab without a visa to do so from the U.S.

The lawyer said all the travel, expense, and difficulty will be avoided by a court order compelling the U.S. government to pack the empty shotgun shells in a Federal Express box, along with a prepaid Federal Express return voucher—all for well under \$100, and send it to the consultant.

The consultant, Berline said, will conduct his independent testing of the evidence and return it to the laboratory within a week.

"The prepaid voucher allows the consultant to sign, package,

seal and return the evidence to the government the same way it came to him," he pointed out.

At the time of his indictment, Taitano was a Rota customs officer. It was not clear if he is still

with Rota Customs.

The indictment charged him with one count of taking a threatened species. The U.S. government is also seeking a forfeiture of a Remington .410

shotgun allegedly seized from his residence.

The trial will start on May 9, 2011.

Taitano's co-defendants are Division of Fish and Wildlife

staff David Santos and retired police officer Adrian Mendiola. Santos and Mendiola are charged with taking threatened species in violation of the Endangered Species Act. The three

have pleaded not guilty.

The U.S. government alleged that the violations relate to poaching incidents in 2008 when two of the few remaining breeding colonies of the Mariana fruit bat were decimated by hunters using 12-gauge and .410 shotguns. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



What is CERT?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a program that educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organizations and disaster medical operations.

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Email: jdelacruz.ohs@gmail.com



The Division of Environmental Quality will be sponsoring and coordinating this year's

"Environmental Awareness Month" (EAM)

along with various agencies, organizations and private companies. This year's highlighted theme is

"Invest in the real green our environment!"

DEQ invites and encourages community members, government agencies and private companies, private and public schools to work together and take part in an

Island Wide Cleanup

event scheduled for April 15th from 2:00 to 4:30 pm and 16, 2011 from 8:00 to 10:00 am. DEQ asks for your help in protecting, preserving and beautifying our island environment. This will be a great opportunity for the whole community to work together and clean-up the Marianas and enrich the beauty of our islands.

Sign up form can be downloaded from deq.gov.mp.

Please submit your forms to DEQ by April 14, 2011.

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 **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**
FOA sets membership meeting tomorrow

The Friends of the Arts will be holding a membership meeting tomorrow, April 12, at the Thai House restaurant in Garapan. A delicious Thai buffet will open the program at 6:30pm with entertainment starting at 7pm, or shortly thereafter, followed by a brief rundown of FOA business. Entertainment will consist of demonstrations of musical and dramatic talent provided by FOA members and our student Thespians.

The cost will be \$15 for adult members or guests (age 12 and above), \$10 for children (age 4-12) and no charge for children younger than 4 years. Non-members are welcome to come and be-

come acquainted with the FOA.

Those who plan to attend are urged to contact FOA's Frank Gibson (flgibson@yahoo.com, 322-3204, 287-7476) ASAP as seats will be limited to about 60. **(PR)**

SHEFA board meeting tomorrow

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance board will have its regular board meeting tomorrow, April 12, 2011, at 10am, in the Mayor of Saipan conference room, ground floor in the Afetnas Square, Afetna, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. **(PR)**

Activities at Kagman Elementary School

■ April 13, 2011: PTSA meet-

ing on Wednesday, from 6pm to 6:30pm, followed by Parent Literacy Night sponsored by the Science & Social Studies learning community team from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. The PTSA & Parent Literacy night will be held in the school cafeteria.

■ April 15: Early dismissal for students from Kinder to Grade 5 at 12pm. Bus riders will be dropped home after 12pm. Students who are car riders must be picked up at 12pm as well.

■ April 15, 2011 is the 3rd Quarter report cards distribution for all parents and guardians from 1:30pm to 4:30p, in your children's respective classrooms. Parents and guardians are highly encouraged to pick up your child's 3rd Quarter report cards. **(PR)**

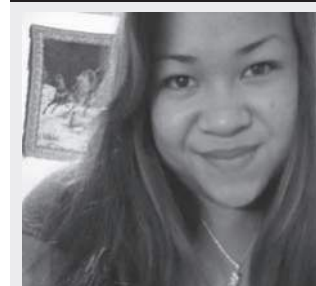
Early class dismissal at SSSH

Saipan Southern High School's Term 3 report cards are scheduled to be picked up on Thursday, April 14, 2011, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at the counseling office. All students will be released at 1pm. **(PR)**


Register for the UOG Sustainability Conference

The University of Guam Center


for Island Sustainability hosts the Island Sustainability Conference, April 19-20, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, Tumon. This year's theme is "Guam in 2050 – Developing our Sustainable Future: What is the Cost of Doing Nothing?" The conference will consist of five different tracks: Modeling Sustainable Energy Management; Replicable & Appropriate Technical Innovations; Policy Implementation; Sustainable Environments and Conservation of our Natural Environment. The cost of the conference is \$50. Seating is limited. To register visit www.uog.edu/islandsustainability. **(UoG)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Bel Norita, who is celebrating her special day today, April 11, 2011! Enjoy and may you have many more birthdays to come! Greetings come from Randall Kaylyn, Marissa, friends, and family. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax, (670) 234-9021
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>




PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTE
- IV. February 23, 2011 – Regular Board Meeting Minute
- V. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
 - a. CDBG Updates
- VI. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
 - a. USDA RA Matters
 - b. Payment Assistance
 - c. BankPacific Updates
 - d. Bank of Hawaii Updates
 - e. Wells Fargo Updates
 - f. Other Loan Matters
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- VIII. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS
- IX. FISCAL AFFAIRS
 - a. Financial Statements
 - b. Travel Policy
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- XI. OTHER MATTERS
 - a. LIHTC Updates
 - b. LIHTC Fraud Policy
 - c. USDA RD Substantially Underserved Trust Areas
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

 NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 3, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-005


“NMHC TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE”

Proposal packets will be available on April 11, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. on April 26, 2011, at the NMHC Office, Garapan, Saipan.

/s/ **Marcie M. Tomokane**
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer


/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**
Division of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Coastal Resources Management

Caller Box 10007, Springs Plaza, Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950
 Website: www.crm.gov.mp
 Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

April 8, 2011

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. SAIPAN SEA CRUISES	03/28/2011 SPIm-2011-X-021	DRYDOCK	ABLE DOCK	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED(03/29/2011)*
2. SAIPAN CREWBOATS INC.	03/28/2011 SPIm-2011-X-022	DRYDOCK	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED(03/30/2011)*
3. KEN AQUA RESORT CLUB	04/01/2011 SSm-2011-X-023	CLEARING/BEACH HUT	AQUA RESORT, ACHUGAO	SHORELINE APC	APPROVED(04/08/2011)*
4. KIHACHI MIURA	04/07/2011 SPIm-2011-X-024	DRYDOCK	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED(04/07/2011)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 11, 2000

Lawyer says PL 11-105 unconstitutional

A law allowing the CNMI judiciary to take the interests on the trust entrusted to the court and deposited in the bank is unconstitutional as it violates federally-guaranteed rights, according to a lawyer suing the CNMI government to repeal the measure. James E. Holman, in his capacity as guardian to Vo Minh Tan, one of the beneficiaries of the Hillblom Estate, has asked the U.S. District Court to declare Public Law 11-105 unconstitutional as he cited cases in the mainland supporting such a claim. In court papers submitted by his attorney, Bruce L. Jorgensen, the plaintiff criticized an earlier order issued by CNMI Superior Court Judge Pro-Tem Alex Castro that asked him to defend claim on the interests accrued from the Hillblom account.

Census 2000 opens Questionnaire Assistance Center

Have questions about the Census questionnaires you received in the mail? Are you uncertain how to answer some of the questions? The Questionnaire Assistance Center is now open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Center is located on the 2nd floor at the Department of Commerce on Capitol Hill. Individuals who need help can either call or come into the office. The Center's phone number is 664-3039 and when the line is busy with callers a message will be taken by voice mail. You can either walk into the office for assistance, or make an appointment that is convenient for you. Connie G. Kenney and Rita C. Guerrero are well trained Census staff, says Sohale Samari, area manager.

April 11, 2001

HANMI hails anti-prostitution drive

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands yesterday lauded the Tenorio Administration's efforts at curbing prostitution at Saipan's red light district and urged government agencies to step up their anti-crime campaign without letup for the benefit of the tourists and the community in general. HANMI president Ronald Sablan called the special task force created by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio last month, which aims to stop illicit activities in the Western Garapan area a "step in the right direction," and an answer to HANMI's calls for action. "We extend our congratulations to the governor's task force for doing a good job. Those involved in the flesh trade have no choice now but to lie low and be more discreet. That is because our law enforcers are finally cleaning things up in hotel row," said Sablan.

NMIRF: GHLIP near collapse

The NMI Retirement Fund has stopped hoping the Legislature would make true to its promise of funding assistance for the Group Health and Life Insurance before the program breaks down. Fund officials expressed dismay over the seeming inability of legislators to decide and identify possible funding sources to bail out the program from its financial distress. Legislators are keen to resolve the problem but allocating funding assistance is another, Fund Board Chair Vicente Camacho said in an interview. He said GHLIP is near collapse and an infusion of additional funds is necessary to keep the program going and assist subscribers needing medical and other health-related services.

April 11, 2002

SPC pledges to help NMI fisheries

The Secretariat of the Pacific Communities, a technical development agency with 26 member countries and territories, including the CNMI, has promised to help the Commonwealth in developing its fishing industry. During this week's visit of SPC Director General Lourdes Pangelinan, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said that, during consultations with her, they have determined that developing the CNMI's fledgling fishing industry would be the most viable help the group can give to the Commonwealth.

Federal moneys to be included in budget plan

Notwithstanding its eventual amount, expect something new in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget: The inclusion of the federal grants that each department and agency will receive. According to House Ways and Means Chair Stanley T. Torres, they are looking at including the federal grants and monies that each government agency, department and program will be receiving next fiscal year to give a truer and more complete picture of the fiscal situation of each entity. "We are looking into that formula. That will simplify the budget paper works. It will be advantageous to the members, giving them a broader view of how much money actually goes to an agency or department," said Torres.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

National security: When secrecy is a weapon

By JAMEEL JAFFER

Los Angeles Times

Jameel Jaffer is deputy legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



In a recent interview with Newsweek magazine, former CIA lawyer John Rizzo spoke with surprising candor about the CIA's "targeted killing" program. He discussed the scope of the program (about 30 people are on the "hit list" at any given time), the process by which the CIA selects its targets (Rizzo was "the one who signed off") and the methods the CIA uses to eliminate them ("The Predator is the weapon of choice, but it could also be someone putting a bullet in your head"). In a wide-ranging conversation, Rizzo volunteered details about a highly controversial counterterrorism program that had previously been cloaked in official secrecy.

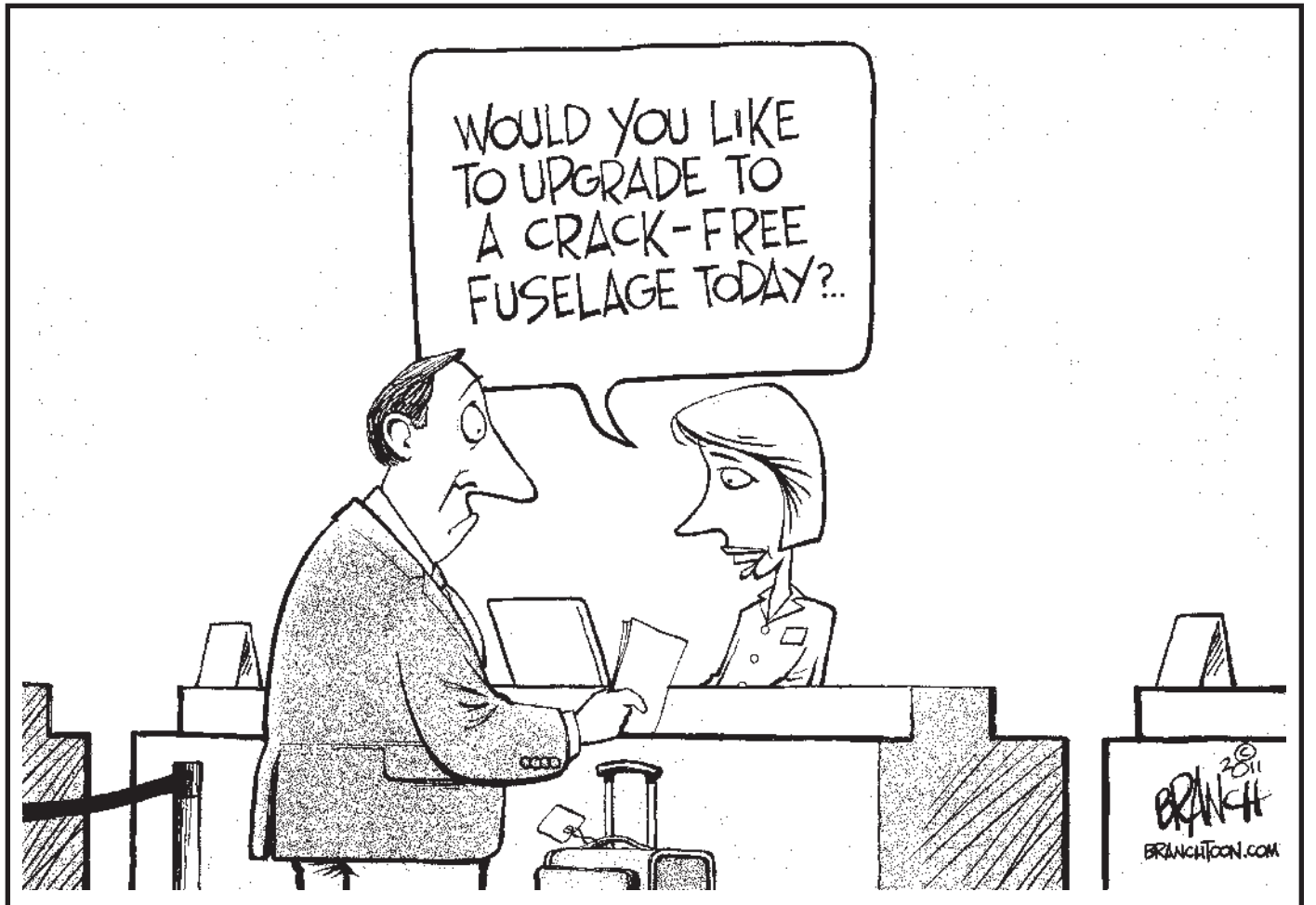
What was most remarkable about the interview, though, was not what Rizzo said but that it was Rizzo who said it. For more than six years until his retirement in December 2009, Rizzo was the CIA's acting general counsel—the agency's chief lawyer. On his watch the CIA had sought to quash a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by arguing that national security would be harmed irreparably if the CIA were to acknowledge any detail about the targeted killing program, even the program's mere existence.

Rizzo's disclosure was long overdue—the American public surely has a right to know that the assassination of terrorism suspects is now official government policy—and reflects an opportunistic approach to allegedly sensitive information that has become the norm for senior government officials. Routinely, officials insist to courts that the nation's security will be compromised if certain facts are revealed but then supply those same facts to trusted reporters.

Sometimes the motivation for the disclosure is political and sometimes it's personal, but in either case disclosure has little to do with the public's need (or right) to know and everything to do with the official's need to tell. Rizzo's interview with Newsweek was particularly brazen, because Rizzo allowed his statements to be attributed to him rather than to the now-familiar "highly placed intelligence official." But where the state's ostensible secrets are concerned, it has become common for government officials to tell courts one thing—nothing—and reporters another.

Examples are easy to find. After Congress enacted the Patriot Act, FBI officials swore to a court that national security would be compromised if the FBI revealed how many times it had used a particularly controversial surveillance power. But when then-Attorney General John Ashcroft realized that he could use the statistic to discredit critics of the act, he volunteered the statistic at a news conference.

Similarly, the CIA filed affidavits in various lawsuits insisting that national security would be compromised if the government officially acknowledged its network of secret prisons, but at a subsequent press conference President Bush did exactly that. In a suit involving the CIA's "extraordinary rendition" program, then-CIA Director Michael Hayden filed an affidavit asserting that the CIA could neither confirm nor deny allegations concerning clandestine interrogation techniques. But after disclosure became more politically palatable than continued concealment, Hayden confirmed publicly

See **SECRECY** on Next Page

Diverse cultures and ethnic groups strengthen a nation

The greatness of America was made by becoming a melting pot of various cultures and ethnic groups. The Statue of Liberty with her torch held high still stands in New York's Ellis Island harbor welcoming strangers who migrate to the United States. These inspiring words inscribed on her pedestal still stand out in my mind: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Yes, the tests for entry are more rigid today than before because of the current insanity of some people to destroy this sanctuary called America. But the principals and goals have not changed.

As a boy of 6 I passed through Ellis Island with my parents when we immigrated to America from Italy. How awed we were as we all rushed to catch a glimpse of this giant lady with her torch. Thousands of us on the ship yelled and danced. We had arrived in America!

Then the journey of assimilation began into this strange land. I spoke only Italian and lived in a town filled with other foreign-born Italians, Germans, Greeks, Polish, Russians, and other nationalities and, of course, with the earlier arrived Americans. The blending began.

By the time I grew to a young man, I felt assimilated but still I remained an Italian. I was an American-Italian. At home I spoke Italian and practiced my culture. But when I went out, I tried to blend. But why am I discussing this personal matter with you?

We in the CNMI are also in a state of transition. What do we do with our foreign labor force? What do we do with the different ethnic groups such as the Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipinos, Bangladeshi, and the other minority groups that are living here? How do we assimilate them? Why are we trying to send everybody back to where they came from? What do we do with the mixed marriages of the local men and women to different ethnic backgrounds? What happens to the children born out of wedlock? Though the children are U.S. citizens will they go through life knowing that their parents and even they are not welcome living here? The questions and answers are very complex. And we must come face to face with searching for an answer.

Let's play with the following ideas for a few more minutes. After sending the Chinese home, do we stop eating Chinese food? Next do we do the same to the Filipinos and Koreans? We don't need to eat their national food, right? After sending home the Chinese and Koreans, who will take over their grocery stores? Okay, let's stop repairing our cars because we sent all the car repair shop nonresident owners home. Good, all the small vegetable and fruit shops operated by the Chinese will be closed. You list some of the other shops and services that these foreigners operate. But most of all we will have become an indigenous exclusive ethnic group. Is this what we want?

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



I am puzzled. Why do we say nothing about other Micronesian island immigrants? They are not Chamorros or Carolinians. Why aren't they a part of our labor and business forces? Many of them unfortunately are also on the food stamp program. So how do they contribute to our community? Why do we have Filipino priests? Where are our local priests? Think about it. But let's move on.

The teaching and acceptance of tolerance and the ability to live in a complex diverse society did not develop in other countries overnight. We have opted to become American citizens. And must act and behavior according to that philosophy. For example, look back at American history and see the struggles of the minority peoples to gain a place in society. Reread the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments of the American Constitution. They protect individual rights, citizenship to blacks and others, and the right to vote for women. And this struggle continues today. Where do we stand on these issues?

It is interesting to note how many of our local people have moved and continue to move to the United States to live. They have bought homes there. What are they doing with the culture they brought from the CNMI?

It appears we are afraid of losing our identity. Are we suffering from cultural insecurity? What are we afraid of losing? What are our feelings about U.S. born people living here? How would we feel if maybe 50,000 or more were to move and live here? Would we act the same toward them as we do to the non-citizens?

Where is all this culture that is supposed to be our right to enjoy? Is anyone stopping us from practicing it? Since we are so proud of it why aren't we showing it off to all the tourists who come here? Has anyone tried to define what "culture" is? Will someone define "indigenous people?" What is so special about one?

Are we saying our culture is better than others? It is this diversity of culture that gives the world its beautiful and exciting complexity. If we were to spend time getting to know each other better what wealth we might uncover. Think deeply on this.

We could go on and on with this topic, but it would eventually boil down to our personal prejudices. Somehow we fail to realize that we are not owners of anything, nor superior to anyone else. We all have a transitory journey through this life. But unfortunately we

See **CULTURES** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Le'an Na Tradision Tanu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



Maseha mampos bahu i tiempo, sumen namagof i dinaña yan ina'akuden familia 'nai mau'udai i kustumbren gineftau ginen i korasonta. Oppan i kustumbreta ayudu gi haye numesessita. Mas este na kustumbreta ma'lag gi fasun tautauta siha piot guine gi didog na tiempon eskases.

Guaha ha' lokue patte 'nai ni hafafa ha' siña ta chogue tat kumu apas guma. Mampos dañkulu na salape este para i dididi' kanifes na pottanmonedan familia. Lau hombre este, gaige ha' gi korasonta sinsiyu na diniseha para ta ayudaye i prohimu.

Este na tiempo siempre lamegai gi tautauta man-inaminasa gi bandan apas primet na guma' familia. Todu koyentura i dos tautau ha espiha pot para u guot' tatte primet gima' niha. Guaha ha' siempre u fan masge gi este na animu. Guaha ha' lokue u fan felis.

Mampos makat na kontrariu ya dimas mohon de ta gasta tiempo-ta pot inakamu' politika, mauleg yangin guaha dinaña man-ma'gas para u masodae' disiente na ineppe este na probleman tautauta.

U fattu i tiempo 'nai i botadot u fan atan kabales manu 'nai man-gaige i ofresimientu siha ni man-mapanag gi un' banda dispues de gipot biktoria. Tai chansa i chumanda haanen botadot gi hilu' este na sapet sa' linala' familia 'nai mau'udai. Yangin taya' ni hafa bidamu pot este na asunto, pues padese sa' ti un' mirese siyan publiku.

Lastima i le'an na tradision a'ayuda kabales i natibu ya ti un' lie' na estague un' seriusu na problema ni fumafana' tautau mu mismu.

■■■

Makat na tiempu pinadesen publiku hinerat sa' gi todun birada hinegse subridan 'sino mahatsan presiun laña yan gaselina, kobransan utilidat, neñgkano yan otu siha nesessidat familia. Gi mismu sakudida, parerehu ha' i sueddo 'sino ma-utot ginen programan "austerity". I gastu sige hulu' mientras i sueddo tabla 'sino menos.

Gi mismu tiempu listu esta iya Washington para u utot mas fondun todun programan federat kontodu food stamps yan ayudon at-kilon guma. Mauleg na kantidan fondu yan ayudu i maseñala para uma-utot pot kinimiten para uma-ataha dibin federat. Kontodu si Presidente Obama konfotme na debi u guaha maribahan gastu 'sino magñu i federat gi halom tadoñg na susonyan dibi.

■■■

Ilegña un' attikulon gaseta na tinaka' Estados Unidos de America kase ochu años antes u nalu tatte i hagas metgot na ekonomiaña. Asegu-

rau i mansañgan lau tat seguru na umasusede hafa mapredikta. Mampos teug' fache'ña este na asunto piot sa' sige ha' hulu i presiun laña. Mas este na subrida hana' abarambau todun planon areglu pot ekonomia.

Iya Marianas, mas makat todun pinetsigen para uma-adelanta i bahun ekonomia piot sa' gaige gi hiyoñg ridondun primet eskalera disision pot ekonomia. Kumeke ileghu, mangaige hit gi hiyoñg primet disision siha ni man-madisisidi pot adelanton ekonomian iya America. Sin kabales na inatuñgo' yan gobietnon federat, megaiña basis siempre 'nai masge ayudu para iya Marianas.

Mauleg u guaha inestablesen komiten todun atmos banda guine para umatutuhon pinetsige mas sessu yan antau na inatuñgo' yan gobietnon federat. Sin este na animu mas abarambau todun pinetsige para ta adelanta linala'ta.

■■■

Sige pagu todun ahensian gobietno ma-estudiaye kuantu para u faliñgu iya Marianas gi aseguru na planon federat umutot programan ayudu. Mauleg este na pinetsige pot para u guaha kabales na infotmasion amanu na programa para u inaminasa finenina yan kau siña i fondun ginen este ha kubre hafa ma-utot.

I mas sanu na hinasson todun sumen presisu gi este na karera sa' tai raya politika este na asunto piot 'nai mattu esta papa' gi pottanmonedan familia. Ta diseseha mas sallon na inatuñgu ginen i man-ma'gasta siha guine na asunto. Ta diseseha lokue mas esperansa yan pinasensia gi todun pinetsige para ta aregla ha'anita guine gi parausun natibu. Sen mas, Si Yuus Maase'!

Letters to the Editor

Mission: Failed

It's going to be almost five years since I have resided in the CNMI, but not a day goes by that I, along with many former residents of Saipan, wish we were back home.

I am finding that more residents have elected to relocate due to the state of the Commonwealth, and have a hard time believing that many of us will not return once things are better. Our islands' current state is the way it is because of the way it was governed years before to now.

Our elected officials are voted into office for what should be one or two reasons: To represent and/or to speak the voice of our people. I have yet to see this accomplished, and if so doesn't last for a long period of time. Yes, they come from different political parties, but once in office, they must work together to accomplish what is needed to help our island and its people prosper. It is OK for individuals to have separate beliefs and ideas, but once representing a vast number of people you must put your differences aside, and do what's right for everyone.

Going back to what I mentioned previously about representing our people, our officials have also proved that they have misrepresented their duties in society, that is to find different ways of solving previous issues as well as present ones. When I say represent and speak for our people, I don't just speak for the locals. Our people means *everyone* residing in our region. That includes all nationalities from all walks of life.

It is unfortunate that because we locals have the benefit, the right to relocate to the U.S for a better life, that the contract workers, aides, and what's left of the local population are left to pick up the pieces. What our officials fail to realize, is that some of these people have come to the CNMI for a better life as well.

Let us all work together to rebuild our islands' economy. Let's take what we have, which are the beautiful islands we are blessed with, and find ways of enhancing it. Tourists don't want to go to a business-like environment for vacation, they want paradise, relaxation, and to be a part of history! We don't need to build more casinos, buildings, etc., when we can take what we have and fix it to where we can show these tourists that they would not be able to find another CNMI elsewhere. We have historic sites, surrounded by white sandy beaches, and a plethora of people that are just as eager to help do what it takes to live a better life. Let us work from there, invest in festivals, and cultural awareness. Heck, we could even have the governor submit a request to put Saipan or one of the islands on the show *Survivor*; that could bring in tons of revenue. Mission: Work together with what we already have and build a better economy.

Cheryl Cabrera
Portland, Oregon

Rolling power outages again?

Word out on the street is that we may be experiencing rolling blackouts once again. This time, however, it isn't because of broken generators, but because CUC is having difficulty in purchasing fuel to run the generators.

The solution to this problem is very simple: Put all government agencies on pre-paid meters. End of problem.

Let's not kid ourselves. We residential customers have done everything we can to conserve power, but to this day, we still see government agencies with their air cons cranked so high that their employees are forced to wear sweaters. This is ridiculous. We are *islanders*. Air cons are a luxury item, not a necessity.

Let's avert these rolling blackouts by spreading fairness across the board. If my power gets cut because I'm a day late in paying my power bill, then please do the same for all government agencies. Residential customers should no longer subsidize for the government's failure to pay their power bills on time.

In closing, I would like to thank CUC executive director Abe Malae and the entire CUC crew for keeping the power on. The rolling blackouts must be averted at all costs, and if pre-paid meters are not possible, then I sincerely hope Governor Fitial gives CUC the power and authority to cut every government entity that fails to pay on time.

Ed Propst
Dandan, Saipan

CULTURES

From Page 10

saddle ourselves with unjustified prejudices. As a result look at the mess our world is in. Neighbor fighting neighbor. And for what?

Something to consider. The world's population will reach seven billion this year. By 2045 global population is projected to reach nine billion. To me this is a bigger problem. If we don't learn to get along with each other, we are heading for big trouble. Space and food will be insufficient to accommodate all these people.

I have lived in America, in Japan, Hawaii, and now in Saipan. All of these places are great because I choose to make them so. Each place has given me a greater perspective and appreciation of

the diversity of people. While living in Japan, I enjoyed Japanese culture. When I moved to Hawaii, I melted in with the Hawaiians. Now here I enjoy life with its local and foreign culture blending into a harmonious whole.

No, I don't have answers any better than you, but I hope to make us think about what our prejudices can do to us. Never forget that we are not isolated anymore. The world has become flat. Read Thomas Friedman's book, *The World Is Flat*. It will guide you into the 21st Century.

We should remember it is difficult to address cultural differences without resorting to stereotypes. In the purest form there is no such thing as a stereotype. Let us not be blinded by surface differences. Greater awareness and discussion of the problem can cause a clearer picture and a better reception of cultural diversity. We gain strength

tion that was simply too sensitive to disclose.

It's hard to be upset that Rizzo spoke candidly to Newsweek. The public knows too little about the government's national security and counterterrorism policies, and without leaks we would know even less. But if senior executive branch officials believe that information can safely be shared with the press, they should not be asserting under oath—or allowing their subordinates to assert under oath—that the information is too sensitive to be released under the Freedom of Information Act, or too sensitive to be shared with federal judges.

Allowing government officials to eschew official information channels in favor of unofficial ones has real consequences. It's not just that officials can control what information is released to the public, and when, and in what contexts. They can also control which legal challenges get heard, because courts can't adjudicate challenges to government policies if they don't know what those

and power by working together.

I fear that unless we fully grasp the value of accepting and blending in with diverse cultures and various ethnic groups, we will be the losers. Instead of riling out at nonresident citizens, we should turn their diversity to our advantage. If we select the best they have to offer, imagine how we profit both morally and economically.

It is not my belief that I can solve this complex and disturbing problem for us. But I do hope to motivate us to think deeper on how to live in a culturally diversified society.

A successful and prosperous nation has learned to profit from the multiplicity and diversity of cultures. It does this by extracting the best qualities from each one and adapting them to meet its own needs. Oh, if we could only learn this technique! What a bright future we will have. And how much stronger we will become!

SECRECY

From Page 10

that three prisoners had been waterboarded in CIA custody.

In these instances, the government first insisted on secrecy and then later disclosed its putative secrets, but occasionally the chronology works the other way round. After the New York Times disclosed the existence of the National Security Agency's warrantless wiretapping program, the Bush administration officially acknowledged the program, described and defended it publicly, and made available to the press a 40-page report detailing the program's supposed legal basis. Five months later, the administration sought to quash a constitutional challenge by arguing that the government couldn't defend the program in court without disclosing informa-

policies are. When the executive branch strips the courts of information, it also strips them of authority.

The courts themselves are partly to blame. Although both the Constitution and the Freedom of Information Act invest the courts with the power to determine whether claimed state secrets are actually state secrets and whether classified information is properly classified, courts too often accept executive claims without scrutiny. And it is almost unheard of for courts to hold government officials to account for disclosing to the press information that they previously refused to disclose to the judiciary.

The judiciary's failure to exercise its authority in this area is corrosive. Our democracy depends on a judiciary that enforces the Constitution, an accountable executive and a public that knows the whole story, not just the facts that executive officials decide it's in their interest to disclose.

Kites soar high in Brilliant Star's kite festival, food fair

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

Kites in various designs, colors and sizes dotted the clear blue skies over the American Memorial Park Center Ball Field during the Marianas Winds Kite Festival and Cultural Food Fair held yesterday.

It was an occasion for many family members to bond over kite flying, among others, at the event organized by Brilliant Star Montessori School and co-sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

The day's highlight was the kite contest that drew the participation of about 25 kite flyers under different categories.

The award for the Highest Flying Kite, which was judged for length of rope used, was presented to Albee Wang and Sebastian Bernardo.

A senior at Saipan Interna-

tional School, Wang said her winning kite was just a regular triangular kite.

"Flying a kite again is very exciting. The last time I did it was back in elementary," said the 19-year-old Wang, who was with her brother Wilson and mother Ling during the event.

Jon Villagomez, who joined the kite festival for the third time, brought home the Largest Kite prize for his octopus-shaped kite.

"I just bought my kite from Brilliant Star. I'm really happy that I won," Villagomez, 7, told *Saipan Tribune*.

For two years in a row, Cid Mostales won the Smallest Kite category for his 1½ x 1½-inch kite, which was flown by his 14-year old daughter, Ciuss Mostales.

"This is the second year I've joined the festival and my second time to win. I also brought

my 1x1-inch kite," said Cid Mostales. "People should participate in this event because it's not just for the children but for everyone. Bring your whole family here."

Alan Carrasco bagged the Most Eye Catching Kite for his vibrant and multi-colored dragon-shaped kite, which he bought from the U.S.

"It could have flown higher but it's alright because I still won," he said.

All winners brought home a trophy, a free kite, and Bobby Cadillac's pizza certificates.

The festival also featured various games and booths like face painting, bean bag toss, balloons, fishing pond, and shirt painting, with an array of food items sold during the event.

For only \$1 a ticket, participants and spectators also had the chance to win prizes that included a beach chair and cell phone

from IT&E, dessert and coffee certificates from Shenanigans, accessories, laser tag passes from Pacific Islands Club, and lunch certificates from Fiesta Resort and Hyatt.

Brilliant Star principal Richard Sikkel said the event had

a great turnout as all 150 kites were sold and more people showed up than last Sunday, the original schedule, which had to be moved due to inclement weather.

"Hopefully, we'll have more next year and invite internation-

al kite flyers, too," he said.

This is the fourth time that Brilliant Star Montessori hosted one of its biggest fundraisers, with this year's proceeds intended to strengthen the school's elementary class reading comprehension program.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Xixu Wang, right, poses with her brother Wilson and mother Ling after winning the Highest Flying Kite award.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Brilliant Star principal Richard Sikkel, right, poses with Sebastian Bernardo, who won the Highest Flying Kite award.

PSS to open first-ever Alternative Education Center at MHS campus

The CNMI Public School System is set to open its very first Alternative Education Center on the campus grounds of Marianas High School. The center will be open to all CNMI public school students.

MHS principal Craig Garrison was given the task of moving the project forward when he took the helm of MHS earlier this school year.

Garrison selected the former PREL building located near the front of the campus to be redesigned into the Alternative Education Center. The building was completely renovated with additional classroom space, four new restrooms, offices for an administrator and counselor, reception area, as well as room for four teachers who will staff the center.

Now that the center is complete, the Education Commissioner has elected to transfer the management of the facility to the Curriculum-Instruction



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The new Alternative Education Center is located on the campus grounds of Marianas High School.

and Assessment department at PSS central office. It will operate independent of Marianas High School.

The Alternative Education Center will serve students who are normally suspended out of school so that they remain engaged in learning but

separated from the normal day-to-day instruction at their respective schools. The Center will also serve those students who are unwilling or unable to continue their education due to age or credit requirements resulting in referral to the GED program. (PR)



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Smallest Kite award winner Cid Mostales, right, is joined by his daughter Ciuss and son Curtis.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Seven-year-old Jon Villagomez wears a big smile as he holds his trophy and giant octopus kite that won him the Largest Kite award.

Business

GOP wins the first round of budget battle

By CHARLES BABINGTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican conservatives were the chief winners in the budget deal

Budget battle

Percentage of Americans who think Congress and the president should:

- Allow government to shut down
- Compromise on a budget plan
- No opinion

Total U.S. adults

33% 58 9

Democrats

27% 68 5

Republicans

51% 44 5

Percentage of Americans who think each party's proposed budget cuts:

- Go too far
- Are about right
- Don't go far enough
- No opinion

Obama/Democrats' proposed cuts

15% 26 45 14

Republicans' proposed cuts

32% 22 30 15

NOTE: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

© 2011 MCT
Source: Gallup poll of 1,014 U.S. adults, April 5, 2011; margin of error: +/- 4 percentage points
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

that forced Democrats to accept historic spending cuts they strongly opposed.

Emboldened by last fall's election victories, fiscal conservatives have changed the debate in Washington. The question no longer is whether to cut spending, but how deeply. Rarely mentioned is the idea of higher taxes to lower the deficit.

Their success is all the more notable because Democrats control the Senate and White House.

But more difficult decisions lie ahead, and it's not clear whether GOP lawmakers can rely on their winning formula. They pushed Democrats to the brink, then gave in just enough to claim impressive achievements, rather than holding the line and triggering a government shutdown that might have yielded far less politically.

The GOP victories came on spending. Their concessions dealt mainly with social issues, where they tried to limit abortions and restrict environmental rules.

House Republicans who care

ANALYSIS

intensely about such social issues may fight harder next time, giving Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, fewer bargaining chips to appease Democrats. Tea party Republicans, some of whom found the cuts too small in Friday's last-minute agreement, might insist on deeper ones from now on.



Obama



Boehner

Two fast-approaching debates could make this past week's showdown look like a preliminary skirmish.

Congress soon must vote to increase the government's borrowing limit to avoid the first-ever default on U.S. loan payments. With the 2011 budget battle still fresh, lawmakers are now focusing on the spending debate for the fiscal

year that begins Oct. 1. The House Budget Committee has approved, on a partisan vote, a bill that would cut spending by \$5.8 trillion over 10 years and make major cost-saving changes to the Medicare and Medicaid health programs.

These are the big-picture, big-money issues that tea partyers have awaited eagerly. Many have pledged to vote against a higher debt ceiling without major give-backs from Senate Democrats and President Barack Obama. The 2012 spending blueprint written by the House Budget Committee chairman, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., is on a collision course with Democrats determined to allow only modest changes, if any, to Medicare, Medicaid and other programs.

"It will be much more difficult, with much higher stakes, with the debt ceiling and the 2012 budget," said Thomas Mann of the Brookings Institution, who co-wrote a book on Congress, "The Broken Branch."

"I see little sign the tea party members and their allies will lower their demands or embrace

a pragmatic strategy," Mann said. "Boehner will have a hard time duplicating this success, especially if Obama is more forceful in filling the vacuum on the Democratic side of the debate."

Obama's re-election chances will depend partly on his ability to resolve these issues ahead. With some skill and luck, he may emerge either as a pragmatic

problem-solver or the man who took reasonable stands against an out-of-the-mainstream GOP that forced a government shutdown or debt default.

In a statement shortly after the budget deal late Friday, Obama said some cuts will be painful and he acknowledged, "I would not have made these cuts in better circumstances."

It's a big world after all

With the construction of its park in Shanghai's Pudong District, Disney is poised to open its doors to the world's biggest market.

Shanghai Disneyland

Unveiling April 8, to be completed in five years

Resort size 963 acres (390 hectares) in Phase 1

Cost \$3.7 billion

Projected first-year attendance 7.3 million

Facilities At least 2 hotels, lake, shopping district

Disneyland, Anaheim

Opened 1955 (Disneyland); 2001 (California Adventure, Downtown Disney)

Resort size About 500 acres (202 hectares)

Employees 20,000

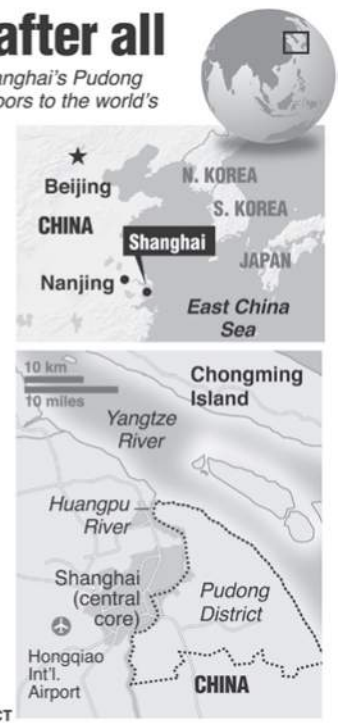
2009 attendance

Disneyland, 5.9 million

California Adventure, 6.1 million

Source: ESRI, TeleAtlas, Evercore Partners
Graphic: Los Angeles Times

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After tear in a 737, asking what's old for a plane

By SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP AIRLINES WRITER

How old is too old for an airplane?

Most travelers don't think twice about it—although there's something unsettling about easing into your seat and finding the armrest still has an ashtray built in.

But fliers may be more worried than usual after a 5-foot hole opened in the roof of a 15-year-old Southwest jet earlier this month. Southwest quickly grounded 79 of its older Boeing 737s for inspections.

A well-maintained plane can fly for decades. Older planes do need more repairs, but experts say an aircraft's age has never been the cause of a passenger death. Pilot training and fatigue, as well as frequency of aircraft maintenance, are larger safety issues.

The average age of jets flown by U.S. airlines is 11 years, slightly above the world average of 10 but far shy of the 28 for Venezuela's fleet—the oldest of any country with more than a handful of jets.

Theoretically, a jet could continue flying indefinitely as long as an airline maintained it, says Bill Voss, president and CEO of the Flight Safety Foundation. The costs would eventually be prohibitive, though. Deciding when to mothball an airplane is usually a matter of the economics of the individual airline.

Older planes need more frequent inspections, and bigger and costlier repairs. That means less



In this April 4, 2011 file photo, a Southwest Airlines plane sits in a remote area of the Yuma International Airport, after the plane had a section of fuselage tear from the plane during a flight on Friday, April 1, in Yuma, Ariz.

time in the sky carrying paying passengers. Besides being cheaper to maintain, newer planes offer substantial fuel savings, and passengers enjoy features like personal TVs.

"Aircraft become impractical a long time before they become unsafe," Voss says.

Nearly one out of every four planes flown today by U.S. airlines is more than 15 years old. That's about the same share as a decade ago, according to aviation consulting firm Ascend. The government requires more frequent inspections as an airplane or certain parts get older. The Federal Aviation Administration doesn't

set a mandatory retirement age for planes.

Age isn't the only factor when it comes to safety. Each takeoff and landing cycle—and the pressurization and depressurization associated with it—adds stress to the skin of the plane. Aircraft that fly short, frequent routes go through more of these cycles than planes flying long distances. In 1988, a 19-year-old Aloha Airlines Boeing 737-200 that had made frequent, short hops among the Hawaiian islands lost a large part of its roof. Corrosion and metal fatigue were to blame.

On April 1, a Southwest Boeing 737-300 with 118 people on

board rapidly lost cabin pressure just after takeoff from Phoenix after the plane's fuselage ruptured, causing a 5-foot tear. Passengers reached for oxygen masks as the pilots quickly brought the plane down to an altitude with more oxygen in the air before making an emergency landing at an Arizona military base.

No one was seriously injured. While the incident is still being investigated, the jet had been pressurized and depressurized 39,000 times in its 15 years and metal fatigue is suspected. Cracks were subsequently found on five other Southwest jets with more than 30,000 cycles.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

63 evacuated from Norway oil rig after gas leak

OSLO, Norway (AP)—Rescuers say more than 60 people have been evacuated from an oil platform off Norway's west coast after operator Statoil received reports of a gas leak. Statoil said in a statement Saturday it mobilized its emergency response teams after being informed about a leak at the Visund platform at 08:18 a.m. (0618GMT). Siv Namork of Norway's Joint Rescue Coordination Center told The Associated Press that 63 people had been evacuated by helicopter and about 60 more remained on the platform to control the situation. She said Statoil had the situation under control. The Visund platform is in an oil and gas field about 90 miles (150 kilometers) northwest of the coastal city of Bergen.

San Francisco hopes tech success isn't Bubble 2.0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A certain feeling is back in San Francisco. Murmurings of stock market riches. Twenty-something entrepreneurs as celebrities. Lamborghinis parked next to taco trucks. Driven by social media and mobile startups, the money is flowing in the city's tech industry again, a decade after the dot-com boom minted overnight millionaires

and its crash fueled a local recession worse than anything San Francisco has seen in the latest downturn. A recent tax break for Twitter and other proposals show city officials are hopeful that this latest tech industry prosperity does not portend another bubble and another bust. "It seems to be the industry that's leading us out of the recession at the moment," said Ted Egan, the city's chief economist. Even so, he said, "it's certainly not yet another dot-com boom."

Obama at Lincoln Memorial, open after budget deal

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama made the short trip from the White House to the Lincoln Memorial on Saturday to make clear that the country's national parks and monuments are open for business. A deal Friday night between the White House and congressional leaders avoided a government shutdown that would have closed popular tourist sites across the country. The president greeted surprised tourists and told them, "Because Congress was able to settle its differences, that's why this place is open today and everybody's able to enjoy their visit." "That's the kind of future cooperation I hope we have going forward," the president said.

Nation

Last-minute budget deal brings relief, disgust

WASHINGTON (AP)—A collective sense of relief resonated across the nation Saturday, now that a federal government shutdown is merely a thought of what could have been.

Thousands of tourists poured into the Smithsonian museums in Washington—which would have been shuttered without Friday's late-night budget deal—to see

artifacts like the original "Star-Spangled Banner" flag. And military families won't have to stock their freezers, not knowing when they might have another paycheck to put food on the table.

The only thing that rivals their comfort? Widespread disgust, knowing that political bickering made them cringe in the first place.

Matthew Molina, 24, of Alexandria, Va., recently was discharged from the Marines after serving in Iraq. Now he's working to get a job as a police officer or work for a federal agency. He worried a government shutdown would make his job search that much harder.

"After being in the military, you just kind of lose the faith in

politics because no matter what you do, getting paid or not paid, you've still got to go to work," he said, standing along the route for the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade in the nation's capital. "I've seen teenagers make better decisions out in a war than politicians are doing over here."

Molina and his wife, Kayleigh Prime, kept an eye on

news of the budget stalemate all week because Prime's brother is still fighting with an Army unit in Afghanistan and didn't know how he could handle his bills back home if paychecks were delayed.

They joined thousands for the Cherry Blossom parade, which was threatened with cancellation earlier in the week because the parade route crosses partly into federal territory. There were smiles and big cheers for high school marching bands

from Alabama, New York and Georgia who made the trip to perform amid talk of canceling the parade and shutting down the city's top attractions.

Even President Barack Obama visited the Lincoln Memorial, shaking hands with tourists after the long night of negotiations.

Tracy Hickey, a school speech therapist from South Bend, Ind., brought her husband and two children to Washington for a long-planned vacation to see the monuments, museums and parade.

ACROSS THE NATION

Mistrial in sanity phase of Calif. bombing case

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP)—A judge has declared a mistrial in the sanity phase of the trial for a California teenager accused of setting off two pipe bombs at his former high school. Alex Youshock was convicted last month of attempted murder and weapons charges, but jurors had to also decide whether the 18-year-old was sane during the 2009 attack at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo. Jurors told the judge Friday that they were deadlocked. Eleven jurors apparently believed Youshock was legally sane, while one disagreed. Authorities say Youshock showed brought homemade bombs, a sword and a chain saw to the school in a plot to kill three teachers who gave him bad grades. His attorney says he was suffering from schizophrenia. Prosecutors must now decide whether to retry the sanity phase.

Police hunt suspect in blast near Calif. synagogue

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police were hunting a suspect Saturday in a blast outside a California synagogue and community center that was initially believed to be an industrial accident. Area Jewish organizations were urged to be extra vigilant. Ron Hirsch, 60, a transient, was linked to items found in and around a hunk of concrete and large pipe that flew some 25 feet into the air after Thursday's explosion at Chabad House Lubavitch, Santa Monica police Sgt. Jay Trisler said in a statement Friday. Hirsch, who is known to spend time at synagogues and Jewish community centers seeking charity, is wanted on state charges of possession of a destructive device and unrelated local charges, Trisler said.

SC man charged in fatal memorial highway crash

WELLFORD, S.C. (AP)—A South Carolina man has been charged with four felony DUI counts in a crash that killed a high school senior on a stretch of highway named for his father, a soldier who died in Afghanistan. S.C. Department of Public Safety spokesman Sid Gauden said Saturday that 27-year-old Michael Blake White faces the DUI counts, one involving

death, and a charge of driving on a suspended license. Authorities said White on Thursday morning was driving a pickup truck that crossed the center line of Highway 129 and smashed head-on into the car carrying 18-year-old Aaron Hill and three other students. Hill was pronounced dead at the scene along the section known as the Sergeant Shawn F. Hill Memorial Highway. The soldier was killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan in 2008.

Massive W. Texas fire spreads up to 125 sq. miles

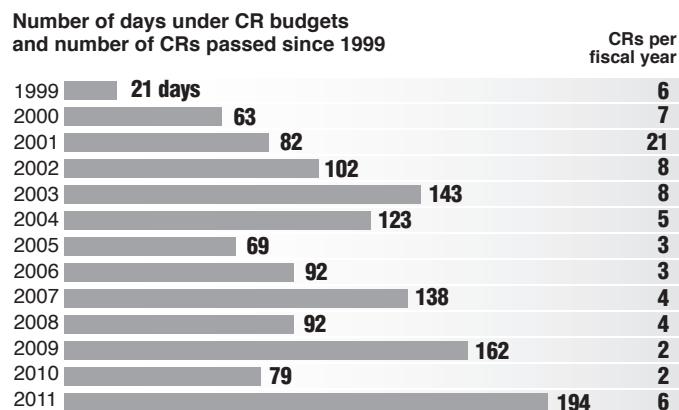
DALLAS (AP)—A massive range fire burned as much as 125 sq. miles Saturday in West Texas, and firefighters were bracing for the possibility the situation could worsen because of dry, windy conditions. The enormous fire scorching largely rural Stonewall, King and Knox counties had become the largest in the nation, officials said Saturday. It has been burning since Wednesday, when it was sparked by pipe cutting. Elsewhere, another fast-moving wildfire entered Fort Davis on Saturday evening. Volunteer firefighter Jim Fowler called the blaze the worst he has seen in 13 years. That fire spanned about 1,600 acres, and high winds hampered efforts to fight it from the air.

2 Carson City students die in diving accident

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—Authorities say two Carson High School students have died in a diving accident in off Monterey, Calif. Monterey police spokesman Lt. Jeff Jackson tells the Nevada Appeal of Carson City that the two 17-year-old boys died Saturday while on a dive excursion with several others in Monterey Bay. Reno's KTVN-TV reports that fire officials say 19 divers went down but only 17 surfaced. Rescuers searched the waters for about 45 minutes before finding the bodies. No details on how the deaths occurred were immediately available. The boys' names weren't released. They were sophomores and in the school's oceanography class. Carson City Schools Superintendent Richard Stokes says the event was sponsored by a Reno-based Scuba company.

A history of stop-gap funding

If Congress fails to pass a budget by the start of each fiscal year (Oct. 1) to fund the federal government, it must pass a continuing resolution (CR) of short-term funding to prevent a shutdown.



Last time there was a shutdown

Dec. 15, 1995-Jan. 6, 1996: 21 days

Why it happened Standoff between President Bill Clinton (D) and House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R) over raising the debt ceiling, budget issues

Source: Government Accountability Office, U.S. Geological Survey
Graphic: Judy Treible

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2 shot dead, 8 wounded at teen party near Philly

CHESTER, Pa. (AP)—Shots rang out in a suburban Philadelphia social hall where a teenage party was being held, killing two people and sending eight others to hospitals, authorities said Saturday.

Police in Chester, where a state of emergency was declared last summer because of crime concerns, said a suspect was taken into custody after officers were called to the Minaret Temple No. 174 around 11:30 p.m. Friday and found "numer-

ous victims."

Police said nine people were transported to Crozer Chester Medical Center, where a spokesman said one died soon afterward and another died Saturday afternoon. Four other victims remained in stable condition, and three had been discharged, the spokesman said. A 10th person was treated at Taylor Hospital and was released.

The social hall had been rented for a party, and many teenagers were present when the shots were fired, police said. Detectives were investigating the cause of the shooting and declined to release further information. A man answering the phone at the hall said he had come in to see the condition of the building but declined to comment further.

The Delaware County Daily Times newspaper said neighbors and community leaders planned a candlelight vigil at the scene Saturday night.

Mayor Wendell Butler told The Associated Press that he was disheartened to arrive at the scene after the shooting and find 13-year-olds from Philadelphia who had come for the party.

"I asked one of them, 'How did you know about this?' He said, 'It was on Facebook,'" Butler said. "I said, 'Does your mother know where you are?' It's like 11 o'clock at night. He tells me she doesn't care. And I said, 'Oh, my goodness. I guess that's part of the problem.'"



PLANE CRASH

Ventura County firefighters douse a plane that crashed into a self-storage business near the Camarillo Airport, Saturday, April 9, 2011, in Camarillo, Calif. Three people on board the single-engine aircraft escaped with minor injuries. One person is hospitalized in serious condition. Nobody on the ground was injured. Fire officials tell the Ventura County Star that several units at Wells Cargo Self Storage caught fire. The extent of the damage was not immediately known.

Colorado mom shocked to hear Obama quote her email

DENVER (AP)—A Colorado mom says she and her family were watching TV in their pajamas when she heard President Barack Obama read from an email telling him how a government shutdown could spoil her son's school trip to Washington.

Shalini Schane, of Longmont, said Saturday that she emailed the president a few days ago because she was worried the 50 eighth-graders from Altona Middle School would be shut out of landmarks on their trip,

which begins Sunday.

Schane, who's going along as a chaperone, said a White House staffer called her Friday to say the email might be used in a speech. The staffer didn't indicate when that might happen, or who would be making the speech.

Schane and her 13-year-old son Adam were packing for the trip Friday night, still not knowing whether the government would be shut down, when the president came on TV to discuss the compromise that is keeping

things open.

Her husband and their daughter were also watching when Obama closed his remarks by quoting from her email.

"That was quite shocking, and we're still in shock," Schane said.

Obama didn't mention Schane by name, but a White House spokesman confirmed Saturday she had written the email. The Longmont Times-Call first reported she was the author.

Obama directly quoted one

passage from the email: "Remember, the future of this country is not for us. It's for our children."

He closed by saying, "Today we acted on behalf of our children's future. And next week, when 50 eighth graders from Colorado arrive in our nation's capital, I hope they get a chance to look up at the Washington Monument and feel the sense of pride and possibility that defines America—a land of many that has always found a way to move forward as one."

Asia

Japan's PM visits fishing city wrecked by tsunami

By MARI YAMAGUCHI and SHINO YUASA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP)—Prime Minister Naoto Kan paid another visit to Japan's tsunami-devastated coast Sunday, promising officials in a fishing-dependent city that his government will do whatever it can to help.

Kan visited Ishinomaki, a coastal city of 163,000 people in Miyagi, one of the prefectures (states) hardest-hit by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that killed as many as 25,000 people, destroyed miles of coastline and left tens of thousands homeless.

"The government will do its utmost to help you," Kan, dressed in blue work clothes, told local people gathered near the sea. "We will support you so that you can resume fishing."

Ishinomaki Mayor Hiroshi Kameyama told him the government needs to build quickly temporary homes for the 17,000 city residents who lost theirs and are living in shelters. More than 2,600 people from Ishinomaki were killed in the disaster and another 2,800 are missing. Boats were also destroyed, crippling the fishing industry that accounts for 40 percent of the city's economy.

While Kan was visiting Ishinomaki, Japanese and U.S. troops fanned out along the coast in another all-out search for bodies by land, air and sea.

Television news footage showed them using heavy equipment to lift a boat washed



Japan's Self-Defense Force's members search for victims in Higashimatsushima, northern Japan Sunday, April 10, 2011. The Japanese and U.S. militaries launched another all-out search for the bodies of earthquake and tsunami victims Sunday along Japan's ravaged northeast coast.

inland by the tsunami so they could search a crushed car underneath. No one was inside.

"A month after the earthquake and tsunami, many people are still missing," said Japanese defense ministry spokesman Norikazu Muratani. "We would like to do our utmost to find bodies for their families."

Only 13,000 deaths have been confirmed so far, and many bodies have likely washed out to sea and will never be found.

A similar three-day search

with even more troops a week ago found just 70 bodies, underscoring the difficulties of locating victims in the ocean and the debris along the coast.

In coastal Fukushima on Sunday, a middle-aged man watched as soldiers in scuba gear dove underwater. He hoped they would locate his younger brother, a fisherman who was swept away.

"He must be trapped in the boat," the man told public broadcaster NHK, which did not identify him. "I'm just praying soldiers will find him."

compound in Lamitan town in the island province of Basilan, provincial military commander Col. Alex Macario said.

Soldiers cordoned off the area as a soldier, taking cover behind a tree, cut the wires protruding from the explosive with a long bamboo pole fitted with metal hooks, according to witnesses.

The military tightened security in Lamitan after a bomb exploded in a lodging house in the Christian town in predominantly Muslim Basilan late Saturday, destroying the small wood and concrete building but causing no injuries, Macario said.

Two men checked in then left before the blast at the lodging house, often used by transient rubber plantation workers. The owner apparently resisted an extortion attempt by an armed group before the attack, regional police commander Felicisimo Khu Jr. said.

Shortly after the blast, troops

found another bomb, which was packed with nails for added lethal power, near a budget hotel in Basilan's capital city of Isabela, officials said.

The army received intelligence that the Abu Sayyaf has planned to bomb a cathedral, small hotels and gas stations in Basilan, about 550 miles (880 kilometers) south of Manila, Macario said.

The Abu Sayyaf is estimated to have 410 fighters in Basilan, where the group was founded in the early 1990s, and in nearby Zamboanga peninsula and the island provinces of Jolo and Tawi Tawi, according to a government threat assessment report.

The militants have been grappling with the loss of several top leaders and factionalism, but remain a key security threat. They staged at least 11 kidnappings last year, enabling them to raise \$704,000 in ransom, the report said.

World

Libyan rebels face military surge

AJDABIYA, Libya (AP)—Government soldiers and rebel gunmen battled in the streets of a key front-line city Saturday after the Libyan military used shelling and guerrilla-style tactics to open its most serious push into opposition territory since international airstrikes began. NATO airstrikes, meanwhile, hammered at Gadhafi's ammunition stockpiles and armored forces, destroying 17 tanks.

At least eight people were killed in the fighting over Ajdabiya, a hospital official said.

Recapturing the city would give the Libyan military a staging ground to attack the rebels' main stronghold, Benghazi, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) farther east along the coastal highway. Moammar Gadhafi's forces were approaching Benghazi when they were driven back by the international air campaign launched

last month to protect civilians and ground Gadhafi's aircraft.

For the rebels, losing the city would effectively bottle them into a coastal strip of eastern Libya and allow government forces to more tightly squeeze the few opposition pockets in the rest of the country, including the besieged western port of Misrata, where heavy clashes continued Saturday for a second day. NATO airstrikes hit armored vehicles firing on civilians near both Misrata and Ajdabiya, said Canadian Lt. Gen. Charles Bouchard, who commands the Libya operation.

Speaking in Naples, Italy, where the alliance's operational center is located, Bouchard said Saturday that NATO jets also had struck ammunition stockpiles east of Tripoli that were being used to resupply forces involved in the shelling of Misrata and other pop-

ulation centers.

A NATO official who spoke on condition of anonymity because of regulations said warplanes had destroyed 17 tanks and damaged nine more. The official also said NATO jets enforcing the no-fly zone over Libya intercepted a rebel Mig-23 fighter that had taken off from Benghazi and forced it back to the airport. No shots were fired, the official said.

International envoys opened fresh initiatives for a peace deal. The African Union said it planned to send a team to Libya on Sunday to begin meetings with the government and rebel leaders.

In the capital Tripoli, meanwhile, Gadhafi made his first public appearance in weeks with a visit to a school. Children jumped on desks and gave fist-pumping chants: "The people want Moammar the leader!"

Anger flares at Egypt army for brutal protest raid

CAIRO (AP)—Thousands of demonstrators barricaded themselves in Cairo's central square with burned-out troop carriers and barbed wire Saturday and demanded the removal of the military council ruling Egypt, infuriated after soldiers stormed their protest camp overnight, killing at least one person and injuring 71 others.

In a sign the confrontation could escalate, the military warned Saturday evening that it will clear Tahrir Square of protesters "with all force and decisiveness" for life to get back to normal.

The warning could presage a repeat of the scene before dawn, when hundreds of soldiers, including a highly trained para-

chute unit, swarmed into Tahrir Square, firing in the air and beating protesters with clubs and shocking some with electrical batons. Troops dragged away protesters, while others staggered away bleeding from beatings and gunshot wounds. Witnesses reported two killed, though the Health Ministry insisted there was only one death.

"It was like a horror movie," said Mohammed Yehia, an activist and university student from the Nile Delta who was among the protesters.

The confrontation marks a dangerous juncture in Egypt's three months of upheaval.

When longtime president Hosni Mubarak was ousted on Feb. 11 after 18 days of

mass demonstrations against his authoritarian rule, protesters hugged and kissed soldiers on tanks in Tahrir Square, praising them for protecting their "revolution." Most welcomed the handover of power to the Armed Forces' Supreme Council, a body of top generals headed by Defense Minister Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi.

In the weeks since, tensions have risen. Protest leaders have been critical of the military council's handling of the post-Mubarak transition and the public has been angered by its failure to prosecute the former president. But both sides also worked to stay on good terms.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mortars hit Israel, no injuries

JERUSALEM (AP)—The military says Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip have fired three mortars at southern Israel, carrying a new and worrisome round of violence into yet another day. No injuries were reported, but radio stations reported that electricity was disrupted by the mortar fire Sunday. An escalating series of attacks by militants and Israeli counterstrikes has killed 18 Gazans since Thursday, after a missile from Gaza hit an Israeli school bus, wounding two people. The military says one of the Gazans killed was involved in the kidnapping of an Israeli soldier held in Gaza for the past five years. Defense Minister Ehud Barak said Sunday that if militants cease fire, so will Israel. According to the military, 120 rockets and mortars have struck Israel in the past 48 hours.

Gbagbo's forces retaliate in Ivory Coast

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)—Forces supporting Ivory Coast's entrenched strongman broke through the security perimeter imposed around the presidential compound Saturday, firing on French helicopters in an advance that appeared to breathe new life into Laurent Gbagbo's camp, which had been teetering on the brink of defeat. Residents in the Cocody district of Abidjan reported two hours of explosions and heavy arms fire before sunrise on Saturday and French forces said that helicopters attempting to evacuate diplomats from a residence near the presidential compound were hit by machine gun fire. No French soldiers were injured in the attack by pro-Gbagbo forces, but the helicopters fired back destroying one armored vehicle, said Cmdr. Frederic Daguillon, the French forces spokesman.

Yemenis demanding leader's ouster shot in 2 cities

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Government forces shot bullets and tear gas at demonstrators in Yemen's capital and another city on Saturday as longtime President Ali Abdullah Saleh resisted a diplomatic push for the resignation that hundreds of thousands of his own people were demanding in the streets. In Sanaa, the capital, security men in plain clothes shot, beat and threw rocks at demonstrators at a downtown square where tens of thousands of people called for Saleh to step down, said Dr. Wasim al-Qurshi, who was treating the injured at a makeshift first aid station. He said 11 people were shot, including one man shot in the head, and that dozens of others were injured as they choked on tear gas or were crushed by other fleeing demonstrators.

PH troops defuse 3rd bomb after blast

LAMITAN, Philippines (AP)—Army troops defused a powerful bomb outside a school Sunday in the same southern Philippine province where the night before a blast destroyed a lodging house and another explosive was found near a hotel in attacks blamed on Abu Sayyaf extremists.

Although it has been crippled by years of U.S.-backed Philippine offensives, the Abu Sayyaf has endured and continued to be blamed for bombings, kidnappings for ransom, extortion and other acts of banditry in at least four impoverished southern provinces. Washington has blacklisted the al-Qaida-linked group as a terrorist organization.

An army ordnance team safely defused the bomb, believed to be made from ammonium nitrate and attached to two cellular phones, after patrolling soldiers discovered the explosive in a biscuit can in front of a school

Focus

WASHINGTON (AP)—There was barely an hour left before the midnight padlocking of government doors. In a Capitol basement meeting room, House Speaker John Boehner was telling exhausted fellow Republicans that a deal to avert a shutdown was nearly finished when an aide alerted him that staff had completed the final details and the agreement was complete.

"He said we don't have the Senate and we don't have the White House, and it's a good day's work," said Rep. Jack Kingston, R-Ga., who was in the closed-door session and later described the scene.

And with that, Republicans clapped: "Not euphoria," Kingston said, reflecting fatigue and the realization of a long year of intense budget battling lay ahead. But for now, a week of top-level White House meetings, round-the-clock bargaining by staff and lots of emotional hills and valleys had produced a bipartisan accord to trim \$38.5 billion in spending over this fiscal year's remaining six months and head off a federal shutdown that both parties feared could hurt their standing with voters.

To get there, the two sides followed a twisting path, according to accounts offered Friday and Saturday by Obama administration, House GOP and Senate Democratic aides who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe confidential talks.

The path toward a spending collision began in February, when the new GOP majority pushed a bill through the House over Democratic opposition, cutting this year's spending by \$61 billion. The measure included dozens of provisions curbing enforcement of environmental laws, restricting federal aid for family planning and other limitations.

That bill was rejected by the Democratic-run Senate.

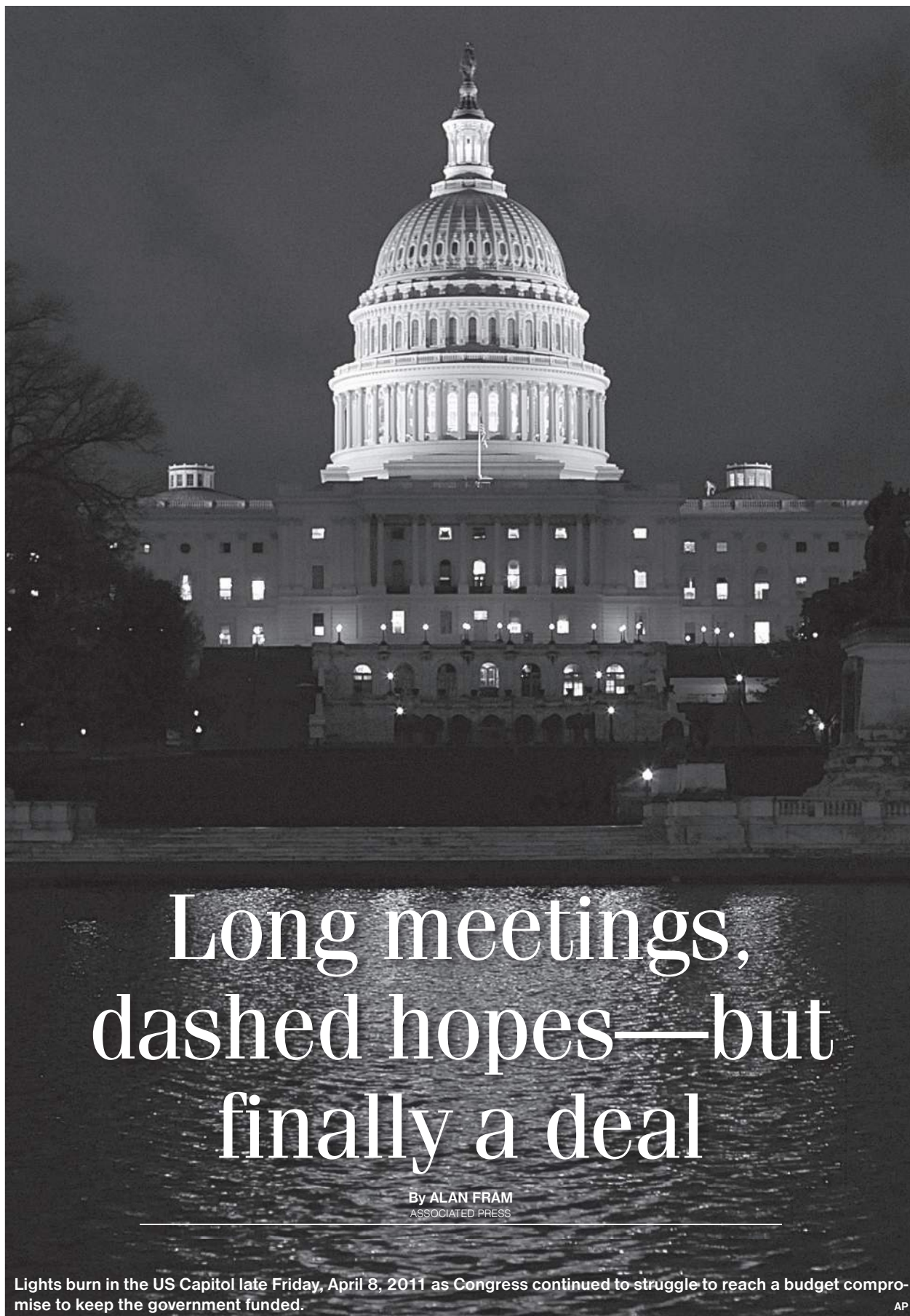
With no permanent legislation in place financing federal agencies for the remaining six months of the government's fiscal year, Congress started enacting bills cutting spending and providing enough money for the government to function for just weeks at a time.

With the most recent stopgap measure expiring April 8, lawmakers worried about a public perception that they couldn't do their most basic work began looking for a way to end their impasse.

Two weeks ago, bipartisan talks started in earnest, with bargainers initially focusing on finding \$33 billion in cuts. Shy of a deal and with a potential government shutdown looming, Obama invited leaders of both parties to a White House bargaining session last Tuesday.

It was clear that that session had not gone well when Boehner issued a written statement afterward saying, "We can still avoid a shutdown, but Democrats are going to need to get serious about cutting spending—and soon." Reid fired back, "I hope the Republicans do what the country needs, not what they believe the tea party wants," a reference to the influential conservatives who helped the GOP gain power in last November's elections.

Those comments set the tone for an



acrimonious week.

Democrats repeatedly accused Republicans of seeking harmful spending cuts, trying to use the bill to restrict programs for women's health and constantly making new demands every time a deal seemed near. Republicans said Democrats were not serious about controlling federal spending, and accused them of holding the military hostage when the Senate refused to consider a spending-cut bill that would have financed the Pentagon for the rest of the year.

Another meeting followed Wednesday night in the White House dining room, where at one point staff was asked to leave the room, according to a senior Senate Democratic leadership aide. Boehner wasn't proposing a specific figure for cuts, that aide said, and was pressing for the inclusion of policy restrictions that Republicans wanted.

Also at that meeting, Boehner said he would need deeper cuts than Democrats were offering, according to a House Republican aide also speaking on background. The Democratic aide

said that when that meeting ended, his side's hopes for a deal had dimmed to a 1 in 5 chance of success.

Staff worked late into the night, but there was no breakthrough. Those involved included Rob Nabors, the White House legislative affairs director; Boehner chief of staff Barry Jackson; and David Krone, Reid's chief of staff.

With the clock ticking down, two more White House bargaining sessions were held Thursday among the president, Boehner and Reid.

In one of the White House meetings, a light moment occurred when the negotiators began focusing on the dozens of policy restrictions that Republicans wanted to include.

According to White House aides, Nabors had an assistant make photocopies of the long list of provisions, which ended up taking time. Boehner joked about the White House needing faster copying machines, and Obama said the copies were being mimeographed, an ancient copying technology.

A key point came Thursday night,

according to the Senate Democratic staffer and White House aides.

The two sides were moving closer to agreement on the amount of spending cuts but Republicans were insisting on including curbs on federal funds for family planning programs—a demand that Democrats were just as adamantly opposing.

It was in those conversations, the Democratic aide said, that Obama and Reid said Democrats would not agree to the family planning restrictions, with the president himself saying it would not be included in any final deal. At one point, according to White House aides, Vice President Joe Biden flashed anger over the GOP's insistence on family planning restrictions.

Instead, Democrats suggested to GOP aides that when the Senate debates the spending legislation, it would vote on the restrictions Republicans want on federal aid for family planning—a suggestion that GOP staff showed some interest in.

On Friday, that formula ended up be-

ing the way that issue was resolved—even though the Senate is considered sure to vote it down.

But the two sides still hadn't reached a final spending cut figure.

After Thursday evening's White House meeting, administration and Senate Democratic aides met with House GOP staffers at the Capitol until well after midnight, the Senate Democratic aide said.

At 4:30 a.m., the White House proposed \$38 billion in cuts, and Republicans made a \$39 billion counter-offer shortly before noon, the Democratic aide said. Hours were spent fine-tuning the final number to \$38.5 billion and working out exactly where the cuts would come from. White House aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that besides being focused on the size of the cuts, they wanted to avoid slashing education, health and other administration priorities.

Helping the process, White House aides said, was a call Obama made that morning to Boehner, complaining that GOP aides were still discussing deeper cuts than the White House wanted.

When they'd finally finished their negotiation Friday night in the Capitol, Jackson, Krone and Nabors shook hands. Jackson tried telephoning Boehner, who was addressing GOP lawmakers, but the speaker's cell phone was off, according to House GOP aides.

So Jackson walked down to the basement conference room, opened the door and nodded to the speaker.

According to the aides, Boehner turned to his fellow Republicans and said, "We have a deal."

Neither side has edge on deficit

A new Pew poll shows fewer Americans think Republicans have a better approach to the budget deficit, but President Barack Obama doesn't fare well either.

What five months can do

Who has the better approach to the budget deficit?

■ Nov. 2010 ■ March 2011

President Obama

24%

20%

Republicans in Congress

35%

21%

Not much difference

33%

52%

Among tea party supporters

Republicans in Congress

76%

52%

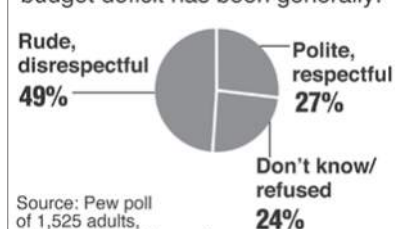
Not much difference

16%

59%

Deficit smackdown

The tone of the debate over the budget deficit has been generally:



Source: Pew poll of 1,525 adults, March 8-14, 2011; margin of error: +/-3 percentage points
Graphic: Judy Treible

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Health & Fitness

Study: Doctors order tests out of fear of lawsuits

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

SAN DIEGO (AP)—CT scans, MRIs and other pricey imaging tests are often more for the doctor's benefit than the patient's, new research confirms.

Roughly one-fifth of tests that bone and joint specialists order are because a doctor fears being sued, not because the patient needs them, a first-of-its-kind study in Pennsylvania suggests.

"This study is a glimpse behind the curtain of what's happening in a doctor's mind," said its leader, Dr. John Flynn of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. If doctors sense you might second-guess them or cause trouble, "you could potentially be risking more tests being done."

Results were reported Wednesday at an American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons conference in California.

Patients expect the highest level of care and think this

Questions to ask about a medical test:

- Is it truly needed? How will it change my care?
- Have you or another doctor done this test on me before?
- Does the test involve much radiation and is there an alternative that does not?
- How many images are needed?
- Do you have a financial stake in the machines that will be used?

means the most advanced technology, Flynn said. Many patients feel better when a doctor orders lots of tests—until they get the bill.

Besides hurting your wallet and adding to health care costs, unnecessary tests can expose people to radiation that accumulates over a lifetime and can raise the risk of cancer. Ordinary X-rays are rarely a concern, but an MRI, or magnetic resonance imaging scan, can cost \$1,000 or more. And super-sharp X-rays called CT scans involve relatively large radiation doses.

Yet doctors often order tests

they don't really think a patient needs because they fear being sued if the diagnosis was wrong or they miss detecting a problem.

Previous studies of how often this happens have relied on doctor surveys. This is the first one to enlist doctors in advance to track their decisions over time.

It involved 72 orthopedic surgeons throughout Pennsylvania who tracked tests they ordered on 2,068 patients, mostly adults, in ordinary office visits, emergency rooms and other settings. Doctors checked a box saying a test was either required for clinical care or done

"for defensive reasons."

Defensive imaging accounted for 20 percent of total tests—11 percent of X-rays, 38 percent of MRIs, 33 percent of CT scans, 57 percent of bone scans and 53 percent of ultrasounds.

Defensive medicine also accounted for 35 percent of costs, nearly all of it from MRIs.

One example: a torn meniscus, a knee cartilage injury that is a leading reason for

knee surgery. Studies have shown that a doctor's judgment based on symptoms and an exam is even better than an MRI to diagnose the condition. Yet patients hardly ever go to surgery without having the imaging test, Flynn said.

Surprisingly, the study found that newer doctors were less likely to be defensive.

"That's counterintuitive," Flynn said. "You would expect

when you're new in practice, not as trustful of your clinical judgment, you'd order more."

Doctors who have been sued in the last five years were more likely to order tests defensively, said Robert Miller, a Temple University medical student who helped lead the study and presented the results at the conference. The authors said similar studies are needed on defensive imaging in other specialties.

Healthy Living

Is granola healthy?

Well, that depends on what type you eat. Granolas – any rolled-oats cereal, baked and sweetened – range from the plain to the overly fancy.

Choosing the right one

- **When buying packaged granola**, read the ingredients and nutritional data listed on the box carefully to find out how much sugar and fat and how many calories it contains

- **Look for organic brands** that do not have added sugar or oil

- **As an alternative**, make your own granola, using oats, nuts and dried fruit; remember to check portion size, eat in moderation

- **Made simply**, granola has health benefits: fiber from the oats, vitamins and other nutrients from the nuts and fruits

Source: New York Times, eHow, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Pat Carr



© 2011 MCT

Personal Trainer

Muscles running low on fuel

After working out hard for weeks, you may develop deep fatigue because the chemical fuel stored in your muscles is depleted.

Glycogen (metabolic fuel) is stored in muscles

Eating carbohydrates gives your body the materials to replace it

Exercise consumes it

To replace muscle glycogen most effectively

During the first 30 minutes after hard exercise, eat carbohydrates

After 30 minutes, this "window of opportunity" closes

Soon after workout consume

• 50 to 100 grams of carbohydrates

PLUS

• 10 to 20 grams of protein to repair damaged muscle

Equivalent to

1 or 2 average sports bars
1 or 2 large bananas
1 or 2 large bagels

1 or 2 average sports bars
2 or 3 oz. (50 to 75 g) lean meat or fish

Also remember to

- Avoid foods high in fat
- Drink plenty of water to rehydrate your body

Source: Jane Foos of Mayo Health System
Red Cedar Clinic
Graphic: Paul Trap
© 2011 MCT

Chinese ministry, WHO warn of antibiotic overuse

BEIJING (AP)—Drug-resistant forms of diseases such as tuberculosis are on the rise in China because of the overuse of antibiotics and urgent action is needed to reverse the problem, the Health Ministry and the World Health Organization warned Thursday.

Vice Health Minister Ma Xiaowei said at a ceremony to mark World Health Day that he hoped hospitals would push for antibiotics to be used in "scientific and rational" ways.

About 6.8 percent of tuberculosis cases in China are multiple-drug resistant, far higher than the 2 percent rate in most developed countries, said Dr. Michael O'Leary, the WHO's representative in China.

LONDON (AP)—A gene that can turn many types of bacteria into deadly superbugs was found in about a quarter of water samples taken from drinking supplies and puddles on the streets of New Delhi, according to a new study.

Experts say it's the latest proof that the new drug-resistance gene, known as NDM-1, named for New Delhi, is wide-

ly circulating in the environment - and could potentially spread to the rest of the world.

Bacteria armed with this gene can only be treated with a couple of highly toxic and expensive antibiotics. Since it was first identified in 2008, it has popped up in a number of countries, including the United States, Australia, Britain, Canada and Sweden.

Most of those infections were in people who had recently traveled to or had medical procedures in India, Pakistan or Bangladesh.

"This is not a problem that is looming in the future ... there are people dying today from infections that can't be treated," said David Heymann, chairman of Britain's Health Protection Agency. He was not linked to the research.

Antibiotics can spur infection-causing bacteria to become drug-resistant if they are overused. Drug-resistant tuberculosis can also arise when people take substandard medicines, a common problem in China. It takes longer to treat than regular TB and requires more expensive drugs,

which also cause bad side effects such as liver damage.

"Infections caused by resistant microorganisms often fail to respond to conventional treatment, resulting in prolonged illness and greater risk of death," O'Leary said.

He said that action was needed now because new drugs cannot be developed fast enough to replace the drugs that have lost their effectiveness.

A WHO statement said about 440,000 new cases of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis emerge around the world each year, causing at least 150,000 deaths.

The overuse of antibiotics is very common in China, often because it is a way for hospitals to boost revenue.

Antibiotics are also misused in the food industry, showing up in diverse parts of the food chain from farmed fish to honey.

Dr. Fabio Scano, a WHO medical officer with the TB program in China, said 50 percent of antibiotics used globally are misused on animals in food production. Scano said there's evidence that "the more antibiotics are used, the higher is the antibiotic resistance in humans."

Life & Style

US filmmaking great Sidney Lumet dies in NY at 86

NEW YORK (AP)—Speaking in his office above the Broadway theaters where he performed as a child, director Sidney Lumet was typically unpretentious in discussing his films, a body of

work numbering more American classics than most have a right to contemplate.

"God knows I've got no complaints about my career," Lumet said in 2006. "I've had a very

good time and gotten some very good work done."

An eminent craftsman, Lumet always referred to his more than 40 films as simple, understated "work." Raised as an actor and molded in live television, he was a pragmatic director, eschewing ostentatious displays of style for sure-handed storytelling.

He rarely did more than two or three takes and usually cut "in the camera"—essentially editing while shooting—yet his efficient ways captured some of the greatest performances in American cinema: Al Pacino as Sonny Wortzik in "Dog Day

Afternoon," Peter Finch as Howard Beale in "Network," Paul Newman as Frank Galvin in "The Verdict."

His actors, with whom he always rehearsed for at least two weeks before starting production, were nominated for 17 Oscars for their performances in his films; several, including Faye Dunaway and Ingrid Bergman, won. The director was, in four nominations, always shut out until he was given a lifetime achievement award in 2005.

"I guess I'd like to thank the movies," the director said in accepting the award.

Lumet, 86, died early Satur-

day in his Manhattan home after suffering from lymphoma.

He was always closely associated with New York, where he shot many of his films, working far from Hollywood. The city was frequently a character in its own right in his films, from the crowds chanting "Attica!" on the hot city streets of "Dog Day Afternoon" to the hard lives and corruptibility of New York police officers in "Serpico," "Prince of the City" and "Q&A."

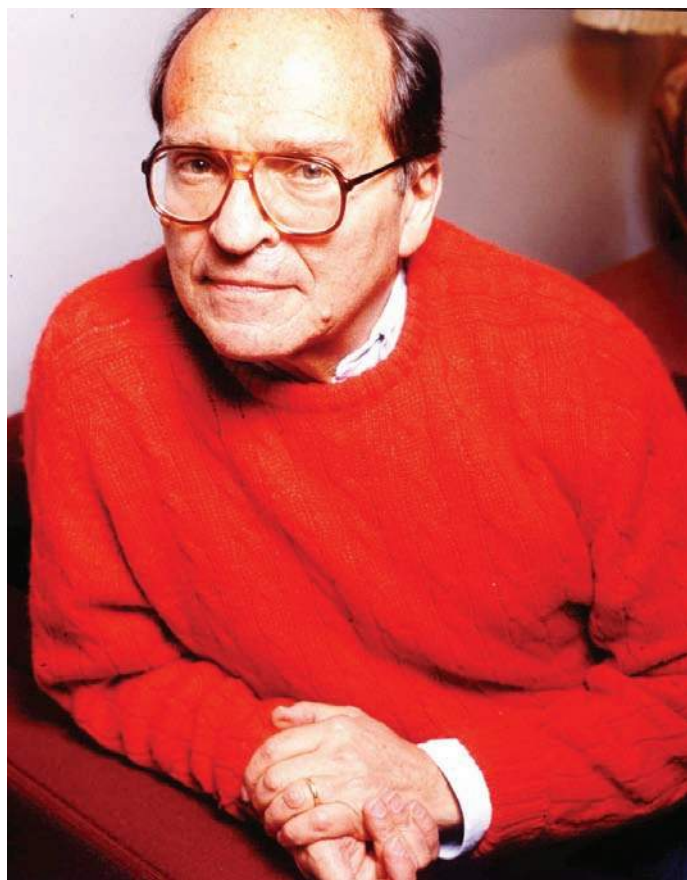
Mayor Michael Bloomberg called Lumet "one of the great chroniclers of our city."

"It's not an anti-L.A. thing," Lumet said of his New York fa-

voritism in a 1997 interview. "I just don't like a company town."

Fellow New York director Woody Allen called Lumet "definitely the quintessential New York filmmaker," though Allen noted he considered one film Lumet made elsewhere—1965's "The Hill," shot in Spain—his finest.

"I'm constantly amazed at how many films of his prodigious output were wonderful and how many actors and actresses had their best work under his direction," Allen said Saturday. "Knowing Sidney, he will have more energy dead than most live people."



AP

This Oct. 10, 1996 file photo shows director Sidney Lumet in New York. Lumet, the award-winning director of such acclaimed films as "Network," "Serpico," "Dog Day Afternoon" and "12 Angry Men," has died the family said Saturday, April 9, 2011.

Famed tenor delivers high Cs—and a baby—in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Tenor Juan Diego Florez has really delivered: a host of high Cs to a worldwide audience of millions—and minutes earlier, his own baby boy in New York City.

Florez helped two midwives in the birth of his son, Leandro Florez, at 12:25 p.m. Saturday. The tenor had stayed up all night with his wife, Julia, after she went into labor at their rented apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

While the couple awaited the birth of their first child, the world waited for the 38-year-old Peruvian to sing the tenor lead in Rossini's comic opera "Le Comte Ory" at the nearby Metropolitan Opera—starting at 1 p.m.

The baby got the cue: He

Anthony Doerr wins short story prize

LONDON (AP)—American author Anthony Doerr has beaten Booker Prize Winner Hilary Mantel and four other finalists to a lucrative short story prize.

The Boise, Idaho-based writer was awarded the 30,000 pound (\$49,000) Sunday Times EFG Private Bank Short Story Award Friday for "The Deep," a story set in Depression-era Detroit.

It was Doerr's second major prize in as many months. Last

bawled first.

He came into the world in time for his daddy to hold him for a minute before rushing to the Met.

"It was beautiful," Florez said later in an interview during the broadcast. "It was a home birth with a pool, in the water, it was very nice and very calm."

But then, it was a mad rush. "I gave the baby to Julia," he said. "I was so sad to leave."

The show went on—a live transmission heard in movie theaters and on radio, also starring soprano Renee Fleming and mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato.

Mother and baby were doing just fine, getting checkups at Manhattan's Roosevelt Hospital.

"I didn't sleep all the night,"

Florez said, "but I'm so happy."

month, he won the \$20,000 Story Prize for short fiction for the collection "Memory Wall."

The Sunday Times award—judged by writers including A.S. Byatt and Will Self—is billed as the world's most valuable prize for short stories.

The other finalists were Chinese-American writer Yiyun Li and Britons Mantel, Gerard Woodward, Will Cohu and Roshi Fernando.

Si Yu'us Maase - Thank You

Our family is blessed with an abundance of relatives, friends and acquaintances who unselfishly visited, called, texted, and e-mailed us with heartfelt messages of condolences when they first heard of our father's passing.

We have much to be thankful for, and we first give thanks to the Almighty for the gift of a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. We are in deep gratitude to Bishop Tomas A. Camacho, Father Ryan Jimenez, Father Isaac M. Ayuyu, Father Rey Rosal and the rest of the clergy of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa for their spiritual guidance and prayers, especially during the twilight of our father's life.

Our father received courteous and professional medical treatment and care from Dr. James U. Hofschneider, Dr. John M. Tudela, Dr. Vicente S. Aldan and the staff of the Commonwealth Health Center. We thank them all for their caring hands and endless patience.

We thank the CNMI Office of Veteran's Affairs and the United States Army for the military funeral honors ceremony in tribute to our father.

We are comforted by the presence of many during the daily church services and rosary. We are grateful to all who prayed with us, imploring the Lord for grace, blessings and mercy. We thank the *techas* for leading us in prayer and the Felipe and Meggie Salas Family Choir for the beautiful music.

To everyone, including our friends and relatives who traveled from Tinian, Rota, Guam, Japan and the Mainland, *Un Dangkul na Agradesimiento* for your presence and prayers, and for all your contributions and words of encouragement. You lift up our spirit during our time of sorrow.

May God Bless Us All.

The Family of the late Manuel S. and Luise P. Villagomez



**MANUEL SEMAN
VILLAGOMEZ**

January 24, 1924 – April 1, 2011



Underwood makes acting debut in 'Soul Surfer'

By CHRIS TALBOTT
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Carrie Underwood says she's happy with her first acting performance on the big screen.

The country music star plays a small but pivotal role in the film "Soul Surfer," the inspirational tale of shark attack survivor Bethany Hamilton.

"I'm happy with myself for the role and for the movie," Underwood said Monday night in Las Vegas where she had just wrapped up taping "ACM Presents Girls' Night Out: Superstar Women of Country." "Am I going to win an Oscar? No. It was so much fun and the important thing is getting the story out there."

Underwood plays youth pastor Sarah Hill, a key figure in Hamilton's life and recovery after the attack. Hamilton, then 13, lost her left arm when a 14-foot (4.3-meter) tiger shark ripped it off while she was surfing with friends in Hawaii.

"Soul Surfer" is the tale of her recovery and triumphant return to the sport she loves.

Underwood says she was transfixed by the story and the message, which made it rise above other scripts and projects she's been pitched—and so far turned down.

The former "American Idol" champion was noncommittal when asked if the movie is the beginning of an acting career, though.

"You never know. I'm not



In this film publicity image released by TriStar Pictures, Carrie Underwood is shown in a scene from "Soul Surfer."

saying anything either way," Underwood said. "I'm very busy with music and that's what I love, that's what I know. But you know this was special. It

didn't fit into my schedule at all, but we made time for it. It was so special. So if something else really special came along, I'm not going to say never."

Sienna Miller: still suing over tabloid phone hack

LONDON (AP)—Prominent Britons who accuse a tabloid newspaper of hacking into their phone messages said Saturday they were not satisfied with the paper's apology and offer of compensation.

The News of the World has acknowledged eavesdropping on the voicemails of public figures and says it will pay compensation for an unspecified number of "justifiable claims."

But the admission has done little to end a scandal that has rattled Britain's political establishment and Rupert Murdoch's media empire.

A lawyer for Sienna Miller—one of several celebrities suing the paper—said the actress has not dropped her lawsuit against the News of the World, which she accuses of "outrageous violations of privacy." Lawyer Mark Thomson said Miller was awaiting more information from the newspaper before deciding what to do.

Miller accuses the tabloid of repeatedly accessing her voicemails over the course of a year and using the information for stories about her, her family and her former partner, Jude Law.

For years the News of the World maintained that hacking was confined to two rogue employees who were jailed in 2007



In this Friday, Oct. 15, 2010 file picture, Sienna Miller arrives at the Esquire House LA Opening Night Event and International Medical Corps Benefit in Beverly Hills, Calif.

for eavesdropping on voicemail messages of royal staff, including some left by Prince William and Prince Harry.

But on Friday parent company News International admitted liability in some cases and said that "past behavior at the News of the World in relation to voicemail interception is a matter of genuine regret."

The Sunday paper made an even more public show of contrition in its print edition, taking space on page 2 to "publicly and unreservedly apologize" to

Eric Clapton jams in jazz set with Wynton Marsalis

NEW YORK (AP)—Eric Clapton fulfilled his childhood fantasy as he took a turn on the jazz side, collaborating with Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra for a little bit of swing at the orchestra's annual gala benefit.

"I've never done anything like this in my life before," said Clapton during Thursday's concert, which saw the Rock and Hall of Famer use his guitar skills to play jazz classics like "Joe Turner's Blues," "Corrine, Corrina" and "Ice Cream."

An admittedly nervous Clapton revealed that his love

of jazz music went back to his childhood.

"I wanted to be in a jazz band as a kid, but the guitar took me away," he told the audience.

But for one night, at least, he was the star of one, running through songs he'd selected—and one that he didn't.

"Here's a song that I didn't really want to do," said Clapton. "I said the only way I'll do it is if Wynton would make it sound like it came out of New Orleans."

Clapton and company then launched into a sultry, jazzed-up version of his classic "Layla,"

those whose messages had been intercepted.

"What happened to them should not have happened. It was and remains unacceptable," the newspaper said.

The apology has failed to silence critics of the paper—and of its powerful owner, Murdoch.

Former Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott, who claims his phone was hacked, said the British government should stop Murdoch from taking full control of satellite broadcaster British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC until the hacking issue is resolved.

The government has approved plans by Murdoch's News Corp. to buy the 61 percent of BSkyB it does not already own, on condition that it spin off its Sky News channel as an independent company.

"I say this to the government—don't you dare make this announcement while the (House of) Commons and (House of) Lords are in recess unless you've done a proper judgment on this company," Prescott said.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport said its final decision on the merger would be based "on media plurality issues alone" and would not be influenced by the hacking scandal.

complete with trumpets, a trombone and a clarinet.

Marsalis praised Clapton for not only donating his time for the event, which raised \$3.6 million, but also for his deep knowledge of the genre.

"The depth of respect I have for this man..." said Marsalis as he lauded Clapton, adding that it was an honor to play with the rock god.

"So much is not what it's said to be," Marsalis said. "This man is for real."

The concert also featured a guest appearance from musical great Taj Mahal.

UK royal bride's virginity no longer an issue

By GREGORY KATZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP)—In 1981, Princess Diana's uncle made a public statement before her royal wedding to clear up The Question: Yes, she was a virgin.

What a difference a generation makes.

Today, few people seem the least bit concerned that Prince William and Kate Middleton, set to wed this month, have been living together off and on since their university days.

"We live in a modern age and people do all sorts of things before they settle down," said Keith Morley, 34, an engineer from Birmingham. "It's probably best that they lived together before making a commitment."

Some historians say it's about time the royals shed the prudishness they exhibited at the time of Diana's marriage, which came

years after the pill and the Summer of Love made casual sex more socially acceptable even in traditionally uptight Britain.

The modern-day tolerance of William and Middleton's living arrangements, many say, just brings the House of Windsor in line with the times. Part of the change may have to do with the very public infidelities that played out in the disastrous marriage of Charles and Diana, which rocked the royal family to its core.

"After two decades of scandal, I think it's the royal family recognizing that to be normal is to their advantage," said Deborah Cohen, a historian at Northwestern University in Chicago who specializes in modern Britain.

"It's a canny refashioning of the image. There is no longer an investment in being anachronistic, or a public expectation that they ought to be harkening back to a different era

of sexual politics."

At the time of Diana's engagement, the royal family and its advisers expected that she be a virgin, sparking dozens of speculative newspaper stories. It all prompted her late uncle, Lord Fermoy, to pronounce publicly that she was a "bona fide" virgin.

The issue of Diana's virginity wasn't based on a fixed rule but was part of a set of unwritten conventions governing royal life, a code of behavior that has evolved—slowly—over the centuries as social values change. It is the monarch who sets the tone, so the views of Queen Elizabeth II have prevailed for nearly six decades.

Practical concerns, more than squeamishness about sex, were behind the royal family's historic concerns over the virginity of a prospective bride, Cohen said. There were fears that a princess could be carrying another man's

child, bringing an illegitimate heir to the throne. This was particularly important before paternity testing provided a scientific way to determine a child's biological father.

By Diana's time, Cohen said, the issue of virginity had come to represent a yearning for lost innocence as Britain was gripped by a perceived social breakdown driven home by its unwanted status of having Europe's highest divorce rate.

"What began as a concern about legitimacy acquired all sort of connotations tied to social purity," Cohen said. "Diana's virginity became symbolic of the possibility of a return to an innocent past for everyone, and now we're so past that, it's laughable."

In effect, that liberates the new royal couple to live their own lives without carrying such a heavy weight of society's expectations.

They are not expected to adhere to an ideal that fell out of

fashion several generations ago, long before Middleton sauntered down a charity fashion show runway wearing a transparent dress over black lingerie, producing photos that seem destined to live forever on the Internet.

In Diana's day, the risque photos of a likely future queen might have torpedoed any wedding plans. Now they raise a few eyebrows, but nothing more.

A spokesman for Prince William, who refused to be identified because of royal policy, said palace officials would not comment on whether attitudes have changed, preferring to leave that role to others.

Middleton's age also offers a partial explanation for the different attitudes toward the two royal brides. She is 29; Diana was just 19 when her engagement to Charles was announced after a brief courtship. There was a general expectation that the young nursery school teacher would not have had any lov-

ers before Charles.

"There is no rule that the royal bride has to be a virgin, and there never has been," said Noel Cox, a law professor and royal scholar at Aberystwyth University in Wales. "Obviously it would present difficulties if the heir chose someone who was notoriously promiscuous—that would be unpopular—but they could do that if they wanted to."

Diana's virginity wasn't a defined issue, experts say, but the absence of prior boyfriends with embarrassing tales to tell was a big plus from the royals' point of view.

At the time of her engagement, Charles was already in an on-again, off-again romantic relationship with Camilla Shand, who decades later would become his second wife. Charles may well have wanted to marry Camilla, but she was not seen as an appropriate choice because she was known to have had several boyfriends by that time.

Eliminated 'Idol' singer got medic, judge aid



AP
In this Wednesday, March 30, 2011 photo released by Fox, Pia Toscano performs in front of the judges on the singing competition series, "American Idol," in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Pia Toscano says she expected to land in the bottom three on "American Idol" but felt overwhelmed when she was eliminated that she needed a little medical assistance. The 22-year-old singer from New York City said Friday that she had a medic walk her offstage at the end of Thursday's show in Los Angeles. She says she needed help because she had a "little bit of a moment."

Toscano didn't offer details, but says she's fine after receiving aid—and the support of the show's judges.

Judges Randy Jackson, Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez expressed shock on the air that the audience vote failed to keep Toscano in the competition.

The songbird says the "American Idol" panel offered her love and support later.

Tyler Perry gives Georgia family new home



AP
In this March 31, 2011 file photo, Tyler Perry, recipient of the CinemaCon Visionary Award, arrives for the CinemaCon Big Screen Achievement Awards in Las Vegas.

NEWNAN, Georgia (AP)—Movie mogul Tyler Perry delivered on a Christmas promise when he handed the keys of a new four-bedroom house to an 88-year-old woman who lost her rural Georgia home to a fire.

Rosa Lee Ransby and her seven grand- and great-grandchildren lost their home a week before Christmas.

Perry saw the story on a local television newscast and decided to rebuild the house. He also fully furnished it.

More than 20 family members attended ceremony in rural Coweta County on Friday.

Perry says he wanted to do something for Ransby when he found out the family didn't have any way to rebuild. He says the main thing was getting her enough space for the children and for them to have room to play.

Stopping for funeral cortege is the customary thing to do

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: For years I have wondered about this every time I have gone to a funeral and have ridden in the procession to the cemetery.

As the procession travels to the cemetery, all cars and trucks pull over and stop. That custom strikes me as very touching. I was in another procession last week, and even the UPS truck and several semis pulled over.

My question is, is this a custom only in southern Indiana where I live, or does everyone do this?

WONDERING NEAR INDIANAPOLIS

DEAR WONDERING: According to Emily Post, this consideration should be accorded regardless of where people live. She writes: "If you encounter a funeral cortege (signaled by a line of cars with headlights or flashing hazard lights on), it's respectful to pull over to the side of the street until the cars have passed. Waiting at a green light while a cortege passes is also expected, even if someone behind you is honking to proceed."

DEAR ABBY: "Charlene" and I dated 10 years ago. We remained friends after dating. At the time, she was plus-sized.

I moved away for a while, and now that I am back, Charlene will talk to me only on the phone and not in person. Her reason is she is much too large now to let me see her. She doesn't want any human contact at all, and I'm scared for her. I have told her many times that I don't care about her weight. I want to see her, but she won't budge. I don't know how to get her to snap out of it. Help!

KEPT AWAY IN PHILADELPHIA

DEAR KEPT AWAY: If Charlene has family and you know how to contact them, do so. Outline your concern that their relative has gained so much weight she's gone into hiding—and hope they can convince her to seek help. Other than that, there's no way to force direct contact on someone who doesn't want to see you. However, you should continue to be a supportive telephone friend. She may need all the emotional support she will allow.

DEAR ABBY: I divorced two years ago after 25 years of marriage. During the divorce I met a man who helped me through the emotional roller coaster I was on. We became close and hoped to be married eventually. He died unexpectedly of a heart attack.

My mother introduced me to another man, "Donald," who is good and kind, but who was "burned" after a divorce and a long relationship. We see each other once a week, but I'd like to see him more often.

I'm having trouble being in limbo and not becoming too attached to Donald. Conventional wisdom tells me to stop waiting for him to come around. I work, volunteer, and have been asked out by other men. I have turned them down so as not to jeopardize what I currently have. Donald isn't seeing anyone else.

Can you please help set me straight once and for all? I'm in my late 40s and feeling blue about my dating situation.

UNCERTAIN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR UNCERTAIN: Has Donald TOLD you he's not interested in marrying again? If not, he may warm to the idea eventually. However, for him to expect you to date him exclusively with no commitment on his part is unfair to you.

How long have you been seeing him? It seems to me you need to have a mature discussion. From where I sit you have no reason to feel blue. You're seeing him once a week, having a guaranteed good time, AND you can explore the possibility of a permanent relationship with him or any of the other men who have shown an interest. So think positive and enjoy yourself.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Donald Trump buys Virginia winery at foreclosure

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia (AP)—Donald Trump has bought a Virginia vineyard at a foreclosure auction and wants to produce wines.

Media outlets report that representatives for Trump bought the winery Thursday and Trump is in talks with former owners William Moses and Patricia Kluge about

running the operation.

Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyards in Charlottesville was put up for sale by a creditor bank.

Preliminary estimates indicate the property sold for less than \$7.5 million before any fees. It was estimated to be worth more than \$70 million

before the recession.

Trump also successfully bid on the trademarks and labels for the winery.

Trump representative Jason Greenblatt told The Daily Progress the billionaire plans on running it as a winery. He said the "Trump brand" signifies luxury and quality.

Prince Harry leaves Arctic after runway repairs

LONDON (AP)—Britain's most eligible bachelor is back at home.

Prince Harry was returning to Britain on Friday from an Arctic trek after workers repaired an ice-field runway 200 miles (320 kilometers) from the North Pole. He had been due to depart

on Thursday, but cracks in the ice closed the runway.

Harry had spent several days trekking with wounded servicemen who are heading toward the North Pole. The project aimed to raise 2 million pounds (\$3.2 million) for the Walking With the Wound-

ed charity.

The 26-year-old prince is due to resume military service in Britain, where he is training to be an Apache helicopter pilot. He will be also best man at his brother Prince William's wedding to Kate Middleton in London on April 29.



ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Lawmaker: Why should students pay for Snooki?

TRENTON, New Jersey (AP)—One New Jersey lawmaker doesn't think reality TV star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is worth the \$32,000 she was paid to dish her GTL—gym, tanning, laundry—lifestyle at Rutgers University. State Sen. Joe Kyrillos says students attending public colleges shouldn't be required to fund entertainment they find objectionable through mandatory activity fees. Snooki last week was paid \$2,000 more than the \$30,000 the university is paying Nobel-winning novelist Toni Morrison to deliver the commencement address. The Republican lawmaker said he plans to sponsor legislation allowing students to opt into campus events requiring a fee. The lawmaker, who does not represent "Jersey Shore" locale Seaside Heights, says he's certain there were many Rutgers students who were uninterested or "flat out outraged" by Snooki's appearance.

Christie's to auction Liz Taylor jewelry, art

NEW YORK (AP)—Christie's

auction house says it has reached an agreement with Elizabeth Taylor's family to sell her prized jewelry collection, as well as some of her art, clothing and other memorabilia. Christie's says it is planning a series of auctions that will be announced later this spring. Taylor died last month at age 79. The screen star was known for her passion for opulent diamonds. She published a book in 2003 entitled, "Elizabeth Taylor: My Love Affair with Jewelry," and her collection has included some of the world's most expensive stones.

Classical guitarist Rolando Valdes-Blain dies

NEW YORK (AP)—Classical guitarist Rolando Valdes-Blain has died in New York City after a life spent performing to audiences from Broadway to the White House. Valdes-Blain's family said Friday he died at home April 2. He was 89. Valdes-Blain was born in Cuba and immigrated to New York as a child. In the 1930s he and his brother Alberto had a weekly music show on WNYC radio. After serving in World War II he toured worldwide, per-

formed with the Spanish Ballet and appeared in Tennessee Williams' Broadway play "Camino Real." He also composed the music for the play "Bullfight." In 1955 Valdes-Blain was a soloist with the Radio City Music Hall orchestra. He founded the Guitar Department at the Manhattan School of Music, and in 1968 he performed at the White House.

Country star Strait buys Texas golf resort stake

BOERNE, Texas (AP)—Country superstar George Strait is taking a swing at another of his passions: golf. Strait says he and his business partner, Tom Cusick, have purchased the Tapatio (tap-uh-TEE'-oh) Springs Golf Resort and Conference Center in Boerne (BER'-nee), about 25 miles northwest of San Antonio. Strait says they bought the resort from Textron Financial Corp. and that the deal was closed April 1. He does not provide terms of the deal in his Friday news release. Textron bought the resort in a foreclosure auction last June for \$4.5 million. The resort, founded in 1981, has three nine-hole courses and more than 100 hotel

rooms. Strait is an avid golfer. He says he has played the resort's courses and always believed it "could be a real jewel."

Bob Dylan to rock Vietnam in special concert

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (AP)—After nearly five decades of singing about a war that continues to haunt a generation of Americans, legendary performer Bob Dylan is finally getting his chance to see Vietnam at peace. The iconic American folk singer and songwriter was set to play a special concert in the former Saigon on Sunday evening, where he's expected to belt out some of his classic anti-war tunes, nearly 36 years after the Vietnam War ended. Dylan's music during that tumultuous era helped define a generation, touching thousands of young people who took to the streets demanding that Washington stop the war in Vietnam. The concert's promoter has said that about half of the 8,000 seats at Ho Chi Minh City's RMIT University were sold to a mix of young and old fans, both Vietnamese and Western.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Slightly open

5 On in years

8 Venomous vipers

12 Piranha, for one

14 Road Runner's noise

15 French menu phrase

16 Exposed

17 "— Gratia Artis" (motto of MGM)

18 Very, very tiny

20 — Saxon

23 Superdry, as champagne

24 Swimming venue

25 Bush successor ... and vice versa

28 Mess up

29 Football coaching legend

30 — Moines

32 Whodunit

DOWN

1 Pump up the volume

34 Lion's share

35 Piano array

36 Two score

37 Dig up

40 Help

41 Press

42 Freeway sign

47 File's partner

48 Inventor of basketball

49 Potato buds

50 Hosp. sections

51 Location

2 Pickle container e.g.

3 Blackbird

4 Drugstore chain

5 Elevator name

6 Super-man foe

7 With Down's protection

8 Costello's partner

9 Fashion line?

10 "Frasier" actress

11 Detail, for short

13 Frizzy hairstyle

19 Albacore, e.g.

20 Gorilla

21 Standard

22 Not for the faint of heart

23 Unclear images

25 Capital of Wyoming

26 33-

27 Birds' home

29 Goblet part

31 Pigpen

33 Black-and-white kin of weasels

34 PC peripherals

36 Isn't too tight or too loose

37 Ireland

38 Inside picture?

39 Sharpen

40 Line of symmetry

43 Listener

44 Twelve

45 Addams cousin

46 Definite article

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 4-11

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tricia Helfer, 37; Jennifer Esposito, 38; Meshach Taylor, 64; Joel Grey, 79

Happy Birthday: You are heading into a year that will bring you greater personal and professional stability and security. Question your motives so you are sure that you are doing what you want to do for the right reasons. Uncertainty will be your enemy and making things happen, your salvation. Your numbers are 7, 13, 18, 21, 25, 37, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't take anything for granted, especially if it has to do with home, family or finances. Good judgment will be necessary when dealing with authority figures, institutions or government agencies. Love and romance are on the rise. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Tidying up or taking care of unfinished chores will ease your stress. Worrying about your professional future is a waste of time. Prepare to make a move but feel confident that it's you who will have the choice. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): As long as you don't allow anyone to take advantage of your skills and intellectual input, you will come out on top. You be the one to present your ideas and deal with the people with whom you are working. A friendship may be on the line. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotions will be difficult to control. Don't let a grudge stop you from getting ahead. Focus on forward motion and your own success and you will gain the respect and confidence of those

who can help you get ahead. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Approach any negative you face and turn it into a positive. Take pride in what you do and what you offer others. A change in location or scenery will do you good. Keep things in perspective and you will get whatever you want in the end. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Choose your friends and your hobbies carefully. Overspending or letting someone cost you money will cause disappointment and a lack of enthusiasm. Care should be taken where love and romance are concerned. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't leave anything to chance. Good timing is essential if you are going to get everything done to specification. A partner is likely to miscalculate a key element. Keep a sharp eye on what everyone around you is doing. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Connect with old friends or get involved in an event or activity you find challenging and invigorating. It will open up conversations with someone who can contribute to your life, personally or professionally. Romance is in the stars. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Truth will take top priority. You cannot evade important issues that need to be addressed. Don't worry about the consequences when the only way things can work in your favor is if you take ownership of the current situation. Change is upon you. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have to watch your step, both verbally and physically. Saying the wrong thing, not abiding by rules or taking an unnecessary risk will not bode well. Stick to what you know and don't leave any room for error. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Work—or the lack thereof—will lead to emotional tension. Rely on what you have done in the past. A service or skill you have should be updated to better suit the current economy. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Decide which relationship is good for you and which isn't. Surround yourself with the people who have something to offer you in return. Love is in the stars and a commitment made will help to stabilize your life. *****

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, sensitive and a do-gooder. You are empathetic and understanding.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

6	1	2	8	3	4	9	7	5
7	5	8	9	1	2	6	3	4
9	4	3	5	6	7	2	8	1
5	2	6	7	4	8	1	9	3
3	9	7	2	5	1	4	6	8
1	8	4	6	9	3	5	2	7
8	6	9	4	7	5	3	1	2
2	3	5	1	8	9	7	4	6
4	7	1	3	2	6	8	5	9

Difficulty Level ★ 4/11

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4/11

Aeneid, Agamemnon, Apollo, Ares, Athena, Atlanteans, Battle, Brontes, Cadmus, Cyclopes, Daphne, Dawn, Dragon, Dryad, Gaea, Giants, Goddess, Gorgon, Hebe, Hercules, Hero, Hestia, Hypnos, Legend, Medusa, Muses, Naiad, Nature, Nereids, Oceanus, Odysseus, Olympus, Poetry, Power, Siren, Snake, Stars, Statue, Temple, Theogonia, Titan, Trojan, Troy, Ulysses, Uranus, Virgil, Wars, Winds

Last Saturday's Answer: King James

These 1400+ words are in the puzzle. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GREEK MYTHOLOGY

Solution: 4 letters

G D Z D S H A E S L I G R I V
I O A E Y E B O E R E W O P U
A W R P A E L G E N A J O R T
N A N G H L E S D N I W A T U
T O B R O N T E S A E N E I D
S C G P D N E S E S U M D A C
T E A A T I T A N S P S S N E
H A P Y R E S A H L U S E K S
E N B O R D E E E E E R A U D
O U A U L T R H S D I N P A I
G S T S N C E S D S S M S N E
O A T A U S Y O D A Y R D E R
N R L L T D G C P L I L A H E
I T E I O S E Y O R T A U T N
A S A H A G A M E M N O N A S

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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Petitioners

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of } **FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0012**

KRISELDA JASHA TAULE LORAN, a Minor Child, by ALEX GUILIS NELSON and GLORIA TARKIO NELSON, } **NOTICE OF HEARING**
Petitioners, }

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Alex Guilis Nelson and Gloria Tarkio Nelson have filed a petition for the adoption and change of name of Kriselda Jasha Taule Loran, a minor child born on December 18, 2002; and that the said petition will be heard by the Court on Monday, May 09, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m.

DATED: April 06, 2011

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F-0122
Attorney for Petitioners

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WHATZIT Solution: Look on the bright side

Edward Buckingham
Attorney General
David Lochabay
Assistant Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Hon. Juan A. Sablan Mem. Bldg., 2nd Fl.
Caller Box 10007 CHRB
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-2341
Fax: (670) 664-2349

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE } **CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0080**
Calvin Barnhart } **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Hearing Date: April 26, 2011
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Judge: Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja

Please take notice that a hearing will be held in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Room 205, House of Justice, Beach Rd., Saipan, CNMI, at 1:30 p.m., on April 26, 2011, concerning the Probate of Wills and Petition for Letters of Administration for the Estate of Decedent Calvin Barnhart, signed on March 17, 2011.
Respectfully Submitted,

Dated this 17th day of March, 2011.

/s/ David Lochabay
David Lochabay, Bar No. F0305
Asst. Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

Lawson hits 10 treys in Nuggets win



DENVER (AP) — Ty Lawson made his first 10 3-pointers Saturday night and scored a career-high 37 points in leading the short-handed Denver Nuggets to a 130-106 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Lawson, who was banged up from Denver's rough-and-tumble loss at Oklahoma City one night before, didn't score until sinking a pair of free throws at the 6-minute mark of the second quarter.

He then hit 10 of 11 from beyond the arc, including six during a 9-minute stretch spanning halftime that turned a tight game (41-39) into a laugher.

"I just got hot," Lawson said before walking off the court.

He sank two more 3-pointers during a 10-0 spurt that made it 92-62 late in the third quarter. After Lawson's ninth 3, the public address announcer simply said, "Wow."

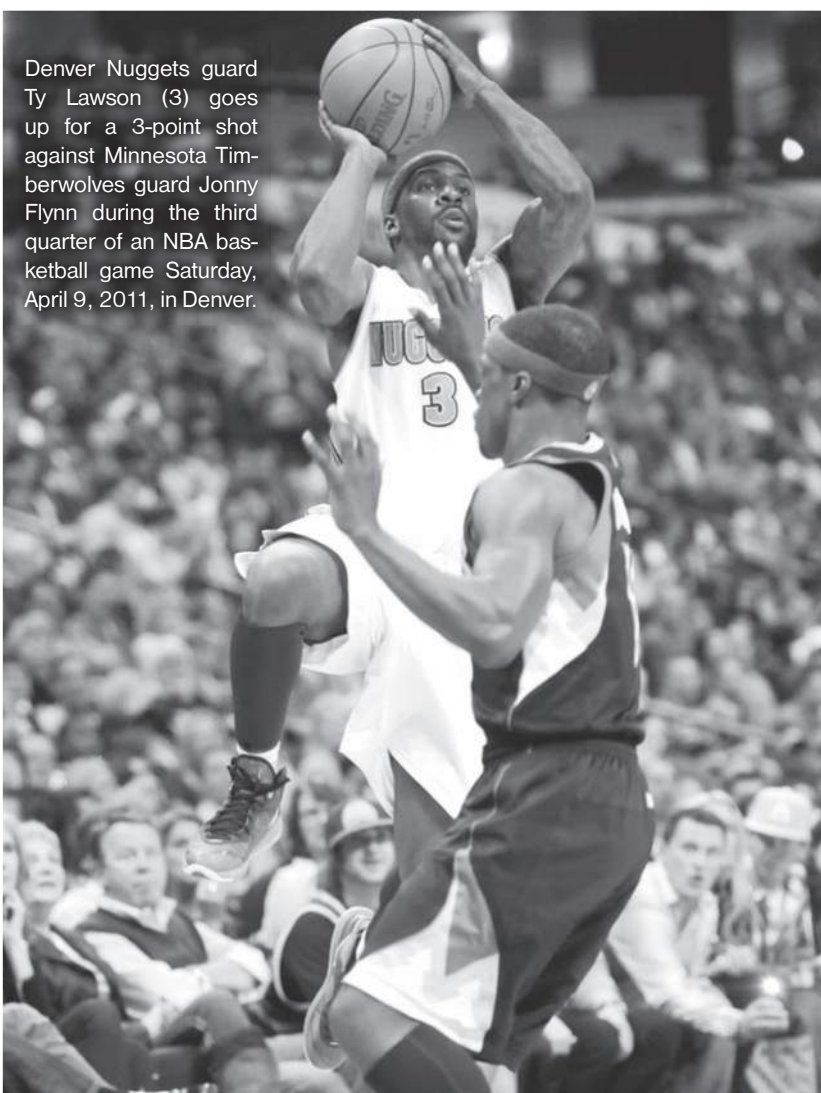
Next time downcourt, Lawson did it again, making it 100-66.

Lawson missed a running 28-foot heave, though, as the third quarter ended with Denver ahead 101-69.

Had he not tried the buzzer-beater and finished 10 for 10, it would have been an NBA record for most 3-point conversions without a miss. Latrell Sprewell went 9 for 9 from behind the arc for the New York Knicks in a game against the Los Angeles Clippers in 2003.

Lawson did manage to outscore the Timberwolves by himself, 24-18, in the third quarter.

Denver's 19 3-pointers in 38 attempts was a franchise record. J.R. Smith (18 points) was 6 for 12 from 3-point range.



Denver Nuggets guard Ty Lawson (3) goes up for a 3-point shot against Minnesota Timberwolves guard Jonny Flynn during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game Saturday, April 9, 2011, in Denver.

"We just found our rhythm," Lawson said.

Lawson's previous career high was 28 points, set just five nights earlier in a loss to Oklahoma City.

"I'm celebrating this one," Lawson said.

The Nuggets improved to 17-6 since trading away All-Star Carmelo An-

thon, although two of those losses came in a four-day span against the Thunder, including a 104-89 loss Friday night at Oklahoma City, Denver's possible first-round playoff opponent.

Denver coach George Karl said before the game his deck was even lighter than usual with forward Wilson Chan-

dlar (left ankle) joining forward Arron Afflalo (left hamstring) and centers Timofey Mozgov (left knee and ankle) and Chris "Birdman" Andersen (right ankle) on the sideline.

It didn't take long for guard Danilo Gallinari to join them.

He sprained his right ankle with 1:06 left in the first quarter and didn't return. X-rays were negative and the Nuggets said Gallinari was day-to-day.

Eight Nuggets and seven T-Wolves scored in double figures. Raymond Felton had 11 points and 14 assists for Denver.

Martell Webster and Lazar Hayward led the Timberwolves with 15 points each. Minnesota was without injured All-Star Kevin Love (groin) and center Darko Milicic (left ankle) again.

Denver, the NBA's top-scoring team with a 107-point average, had been held below 100 in four of its last five games before breaking out against the T-Wolves.

After Wesley Johnson's 3-pointer pulled Minnesota to 43-42, the Nuggets took control with a 17-2 run fueled by a couple of 3s from Lawson. He added another that gave Denver a 65-51 halftime lead.

They led by 35 in the second half.

Spurs 111, Jazz 102

At San Antonio, Richard Jefferson scored 20 points as San Antonio began resting up with the No. 1 seed in the Western Conference secured.

The Spurs (61-19) have two games left and are 1 1/2 games ahead of Chicago for the NBA's best record. DeJuan Blair had 12 points starting in place of Antonio McDyess, who got the night off. Coach Gregg Popovich said he won't be overplaying anybody through

the next week.

Al Jefferson led Utah with 23 points.

Bucks 108, Cavaliers 101

At Milwaukee, Drew Gooden had his first career triple-double and John Salmons scored 32 points for Milwaukee.

Gooden had 15 points, 13 rebounds and 13 assists for the Bucks, hitting double-digits in all three stat categories in the middle of the third quarter.

Baron Davis scored 19 points and Ramon Sessions added 15 for the Cavaliers in a matchup between two teams that have been eliminated from playoff contention.

Rockets 99, Clippers 78

At Houston, Chase Budinger, Kevin Martin and Brad Miller scored 16 points each, and Chuck Hayes had 12 points and 13 rebounds to lead Houston.

Goran Dragic had 14 points, seven assists and a career-high 10 rebounds in his first start for the Rockets since he was acquired from Phoenix at the trade deadline.

Eric Gordon scored 19 points and Blake Griffin had 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Clippers.

Wizards 115, Hawks 83

At Washington, Andray Blatche scored 23 points and John Wall had 19 as Washington dealt playoff-bound Atlanta its fourth straight loss.

The reeling Hawks, who are set to play Orlando in the first round, are heading into the postseason in less than ideal shape.

Al Horford led the Hawks with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Joe Johnson had 16 as coach Larry Drew pulled his starters early in the fourth quarter.

McIlroy leads Masters, staying cool on hot day



AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—It was a roar that defines the Masters, so loud it startled even Tiger Woods.

Rory McIlroy, who already dazzled the crowd with a shot through the pines to the back of the 17th green, raised the putter in his left hand as the birdie putt turned toward the hole, then slammed his right fist when the ball disappeared into the cup.

The cheer was so clamorous that Woods, who had settled over his shot in the 18th fairway, had to back away. After all these years of crushing the hopes of so many others, the four-time Masters champ finally felt what it was like on the other end.

That moment - and right now, this Masters - belongs to McIlroy.

"I had been waiting on a putt to drop all day," McIlroy said Saturday. "And for it to drop there, it was great timing."

It sent the 21-year-old from Northern Ireland to a 2-under 70 and gave him a four-shot lead going into Sunday, the largest 54-hole lead at the Masters since a 21-year-old Woods led by nine in 1997.

Woods is not close to him after a 74 to finish seven shots be-

hind. Chasing after McIlroy are former Masters champion Angel Cabrera, Charl Schwartzel, K.J. Choi and Jason Day.

"It's a great position to be in," McIlroy said. "I feel comfortable with my game, comfortable with the way I prepared, and all of a sudden I'm finally feeling comfortable on this golf course. With a combination like that, you're going to feel pretty good."

He is making it look easy.

That bounce in his step turned into a swagger as he walked to the 18th tee, ripped another drive and walked toward the green to a loud ovation - perhaps a preview to a coronation.

Following him around Augusta National was U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell, who missed the cut but didn't want to miss out on his countryman having a chance to give Europe another major.

"He just texted me and told me he loves me," McIlroy said. "I don't know if that's him or the beer talking. No, it's great to see him out there and I appreciate his support. He's going to know how I'm feeling. Here's a major champion and he got it done last year at Pebble. Hopefully, I can emulate that feeling

and get a major myself."

McIlroy was at 12-under 204 and will play in the final group Sunday with Cabrera, who won the Masters two years ago and is the only major champion within six shots of McIlroy.

Cabrera has fallen to No. 97 in the world, with only two top 10s in the last year. He didn't think he had much of a chance when he arrived at Augusta. But he's starting to believe after a 67.

"Now that I see that I'm playing well, I sure think I can do it," Cabrera said.

The group at 8-under 208 also includes Schwartzel (68), Choi (71) and Day, the 23-year-old Australian who took the lead on the front nine with a long birdie on No. 5, but paid for his aggressive putting and had to settle for a 72.

"I'm not getting ahead of myself," McIlroy said. "I know how leads can dwindle very quickly. I have to go out there tomorrow, not take anything for granted, and go out and play as hard as I've played the last three days. If I can do that, hopefully things will go by way."

The challenge from Woods, who started the third round only three shots behind, never materialized.

He squandered birdie chances with a fairway metal that went too long on the par-5 eighth, a 5-foot birdie putt that never had a chance on No. 9, a shocking miss for par from 2 feet on No. 11 and a three-putt par on the 15th after an amazing hook around the trees that barely cleared the water.

"The way he played yesterday, you would expect him to come and play well," McIlroy said. "Sometimes it happens, and sometimes it doesn't. But as I said, I really don't care about anyone else in this golf tournament, other than myself."

Woods ended his streak of 16 rounds at par or better at a major he won four times.

The final hole summed up his day, perhaps the tournament, and the state of golf as it prepares for the next generation.

For so many years, it was Woods who delivered big birdies that made everyone else take notice. This time, it was McIlroy who forced Woods to back off. He then hit his approach over the green and missed a 6-foot par putt.

"I just made nothing," Woods said. "I hit the ball well all day. That wasn't the problem. Take away the two three-putts there, a

couple of unforced errors and it should have been a pretty good round."

McIlroy didn't have to make any such excuses.

He has made only three bogeys over three rounds, and no three-putts, always a key at the Masters. He and Day were tied for the lead at 9 under as they made their way through Amen Corner, and McIlroy seized control on the 13th.

A bold tee shot down the left side, where Rae's Creek winds its way along the azaleas, gave McIlroy a clear shot with a 6-iron on the green and he two-putted for a birdie. Day attacked the flag in the back left corner and went long, into the second cut. His delicate chip rolled back toward him, he putted up the slope about 6 feet below the hole and missed the putt to make bogey.

Day fell further behind as McIlroy played well beyond his 21 years.

The Australian was saved on the par-5 15th when his shot came up short, but stayed dry because the grass is not shaved as low as it normally is. He was able to get up-and-down for birdie to match another two-putt birdie by McIlroy.

On the 16th, both were on the bottom shelf. Day gunned his putt about 6 feet past the hole

and missed it coming back. McIlroy rolled his with better pace to pick up an easy par, and another stroke.

Then came the 17th, where McIlroy hooked his approach around the pines to the back of the green, then holed the slick putt that unleashed his emotions and set off the loudest roar of the day.

It was the third straight day for McIlroy and Day to play in the same group. Saturday was different, though, and as both tried to get into position for a green jacket, there was a lot less chatter.

"I still went out there and had fun," Day said. "Obviously, I made a few disappointing choices. But I'm going to go out there tomorrow and I've got a game plan that I want to stick to. And if I can do that and hole some putts, hopefully I can try and chase them down."

Missing from the pack are the Americans. Bo Van Pelt was the low American after a 68 put him in eighth place, six shots behind. Woods was in the group seven shots behind along with 51-year-old Fred Couples and Bubba Watson.

If an international player wins, it will be the first time ever that Americans did not own any of the four majors or the Ryder Cup.

Yankees slug 4 homers, beat Red Sox



BOSTON (AP)—Russell Martin hit two of New York's four home runs as the Yankees rebounded for a 9-4 win over Boston on Saturday, one day after becoming the only team to lose to the Red Sox this season.

Curtis Granderson and Robinson Cano also went deep for the Yankees, who already have 18 homers through eight games. The Red Sox have allowed 19 in their eight games.

David Robertson (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 perfect innings after starter Ivan Nova was lifted with one out in the fifth with the Yankees leading 7-4. Clay Buchholz (0-2) allowed five runs and eight hits in 3 2-3 innings as Boston's starters continued to struggle.

Cano finished a triple short of the cycle.

Orioles 5, Rangers 0, 1st game **Rangers 13, Orioles 1, 2nd game**

At Baltimore, Adrian Beltre homered to cap a six-run third inning as Texas routed Baltimore to earn a doubleheader split.

In the first game, Orioles rookie Zach Britton (2-0) took a two-hitter into the eighth and Baltimore got homers from Nick Markakis and Mark Reynolds in a victory that ended the Rangers' run as the last unbeaten team in the majors.

After going quietly in the opener, Texas unloaded on Orioles starter Jake Arrieta (1-1) in the nightcap. Arrieta gave up eight runs and six hits, including homers to Beltre and Mike Napoli, in 3 1-3 innings.

Beltre went 3 for 5 with three RBIs, and Nelson Cruz hit a three-run homer in the ninth to finish with four RBIs.

In the opener, the Rangers were seeking to match the franchise-record 7-0 start of the 1996 club. But the defending AL champions fell behind 5-0 after three innings and never threatened to make up the difference.

Colby Lewis (1-1) allowed five runs, four earned, in six innings to end a run of five straight wins by Texas starters.

White Sox 4, Rays 2

At Chicago, A.J. Pierzynski hit a two-run double and Phil Humber pitched a career-high six innings to lead Chicago over the sputtering Tampa Bay Rays in a game that got a little testy at the end.

Felipe Lopez took exception to an inside pitch from Chris Sale in the ninth inning, then flipped his bat in the lanky left-hander's direction after hitting a solo home run. When Lopez crossed home plate, he and Pierzynski went nose-to-nose and jawed at each other for a couple of seconds, but there was no pushing or shoving.

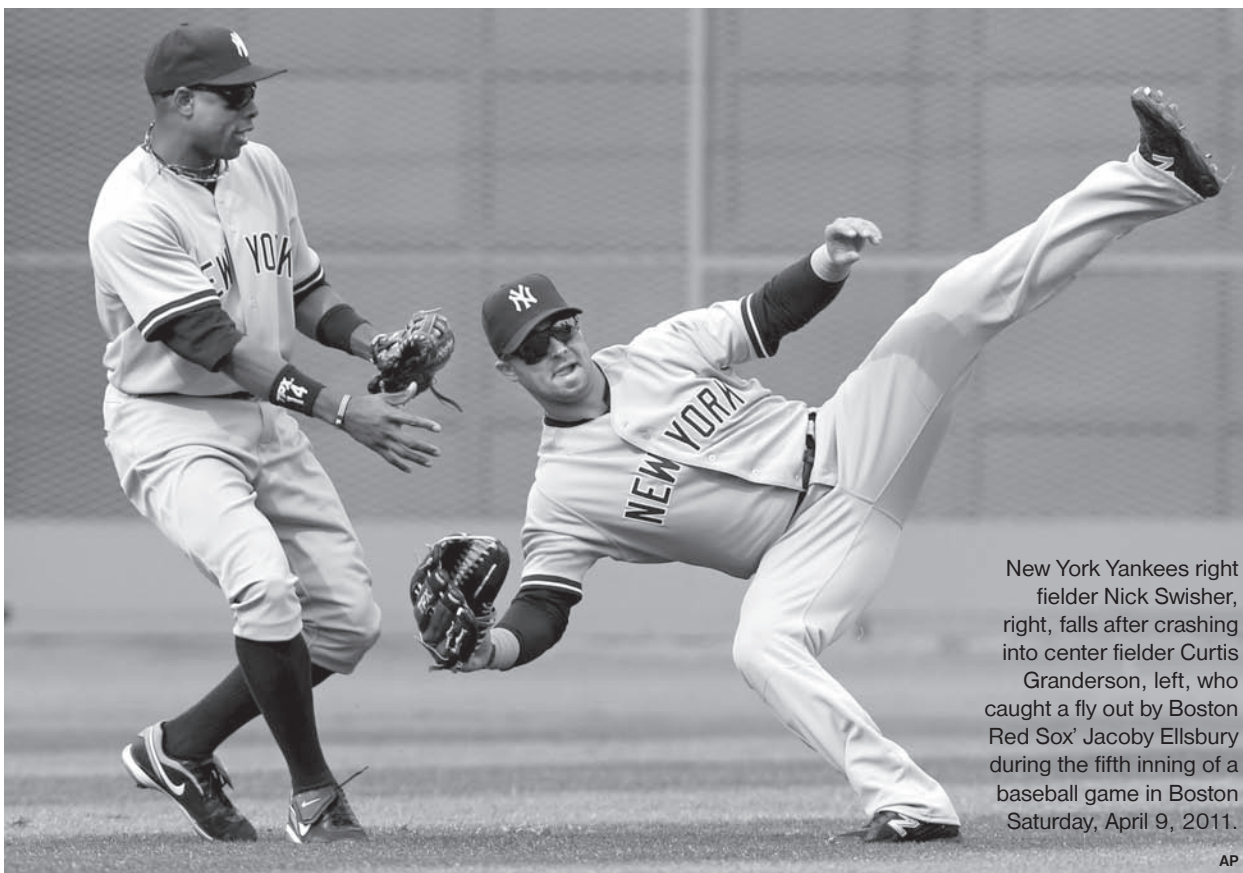
Lopez was led away by Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon as he made his way toward the dugout. Sale finished up for his first save of the season.

One day after Manny Ramirez abruptly retired rather than face a 100-game suspension for a second violation of baseball's drug policy, the Rays dropped to 1-7.

Royals 3, Tigers 1

At Detroit, Bruce Chen allowed three hits over six impressive innings to lead Kansas City past Detroit.

Wilson Betemit and Alcides Escobar drove in runs in the second inning for the Royals, and Jeff Francoeur added a



New York Yankees right fielder Nick Swisher, right, falls after crashing into center fielder Curtis Granderson, left, who caught a fly out by Boston Red Sox' Jacoby Ellsbury during the fifth inning of a baseball game in Boston Saturday, April 9, 2011.

Brian Schneider gave the Phillies a 3-2 lead with his two-run homer off Brandon Beachy (0-1) in the fourth. The Phillies had 15 hits, including eight for extra bases.

Marlins 7, Astros 5

At Houston, Greg Dobbs homered and drove in three runs for Florida in place of Donnie Murphy, who moved to shortstop in place of injured All-Star Hanley Ramirez.

The Marlins trailed in the sixth inning before an RBI double by Mike Stanton made it 4-2. Dobbs tied it with his two-out, two-run homer that landed in the right-field bullpen.

Chris Coghlan and Omar Infante both hit run-scoring doubles in the seventh before Dobbs pushed the lead to 7-4 with an RBI double in the eighth.

Rockies 6, Pirates 4

At Pittsburgh, Ty Wigginton hit a tie-breaking, three-run double in the eighth inning to keep Colorado atop the National League West four straight days for the first time since 2006.

With the bases loaded, Wigginton ripped a shot off reliever Jose Veras (0-1) and past diving third baseman Pedro Alvarez into the left-field corner.

At 5-2, the Rockies have tied the 1998 team for the second-best start in franchise history.

Mets 8, Nationals 4

At New York, Carlos Beltran hit two early home runs and Ike Davis hit a long two-run triple in the sixth as the Mets got several clutch hits while beating Washington.

Chris Capuano (1-0) pitched six gutsy innings in his first start for the Mets — and first start in April since 2007 — as New York avoided losing its first two at home since 1997.

Taylor Buchholz pitched a perfect seventh and Bobby Parnell nearly gave the lead back in the eighth, before Francisco Rodriguez relieved with two outs and induced pinch-hitter Matt Stairs into a groundout. Rodriguez finished for his first save since Aug. 10.

Giants 3, Cardinals 2

At San Francisco, Miguel Tejada hit a two-run double that glanced off the glove of center fielder Colby Rasmus with two outs in the ninth inning and the San Francisco Giants rallied late for the second straight day to beat the St. Louis Cardinals 3-2 on Saturday night a few hours after receiving their World Series rings.

The Giants celebrated as though they had just won the championship all over again, with ace Tim Lincecum among those who sprinted out of the dugout to hug the team's new shortstop. Tejada skipped in jubilation after his 15th career game-winning hit.

Diamondbacks 13, Reds 2

At Phoenix, Ian Kennedy struck out nine batters in eight dominant innings and Arizona hit three late-inning homers to turn the Diamondbacks' home opener into a rout.

Justin Upton homered, drove in two runs and scored three times in the Diamondbacks' highest-scoring home opener since the franchise was born in 1998. Kelly Johnson had a three-run home run and Chris Young a solo shot for Arizona. All three home runs came off reliever Matt Maloney.

sacrifice fly in the ninth.

The Royals' previous four wins all came in their last at-bat, but they needed no dramatics this time with Chen (1-0) protecting the early lead. Joakim Soria pitched the ninth and allowed a two-out homer by Ryan Raburn before holding on for his second save.

Athletics 1, Twins 0

At Minneapolis, Gio Gonzalez pitched six sharp innings as Oakland edged Minnesota.

Gonzalez (2-0) allowed four hits with four strikeouts and two walks for the Athletics, who stranded 11 runners. Brian Fuentes earned his second save with 1 2-3 innings of scoreless relief.

Nick Blackburn (1-1) yielded an unearned run and five hits in six innings for the Twins, who are struggling with the bats. The top four hitters in Minnesota's lineup went a combined 1 for 15 with a single and a walk.

The only run of the game came when Kurt Suzuki scored on a throwing error by Twins shortstop Alexi Casilla in the sixth.

Indians 2, Mariners 1

At Seattle, in his first outing, Justin

Masterson couldn't strike out anyone. But on Saturday night, he had Seattle batters flailing at pitches.

Either way is working just fine. Masterson and the Cleveland Indians are on an early tear.

Masterson took a shutout into the seventh inning, striking out nine, and the Indians benefited from one major defensive lapse by Seattle in a 2-1 win over the Mariners.

Brewers 6, Cubs 0

At Milwaukee, Prince Fielder drove in four runs with a career-high three doubles and Chris Narveson pitched seven shutout innings as the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Chicago Cubs 6-0 on Saturday.

Narveson (1-0) struck out nine and ran his scoreless streak to 13 innings over his first two starts after working out of trouble multiple times.

Fielder doubled in his first three at-bats in the first, third and fifth innings against Matt Garza (0-1) as Milwaukee built a 5-0 lead.

Ryan Braun scored three runs and drove in another, and Nyjer Morgan tripled, scored, walked with the bases loaded and made a leaping catch near the wall to keep Alfonso Soriano from

an extra-base hit.

Dodgers 4, Padres 2, 11 innings

At San Diego, Tony Gwynn Jr. singled in the go-ahead run against his former team with two outs in the 11th inning as the Dodgers won a game that had been suspended at 1:40 a.m. the previous night after four rain delays totaling 3 hours, 36 minutes.

Gwynn, the son of Padres Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn, entered during a double switch in the bottom of the ninth. With two on in the 11th, he hit a two-strike pitch from sidearm Pat Neshek that dropped in front of right fielder Will Venable. That brought in Juan Uribe, who was aboard on a double against Ernesto Frieri (0-1). Aaron Miles then scored on a wild pitch.

Phillies 10, Braves 2

At Atlanta, Carlos Ruiz hit a pinch-hit grand slam and drove in five runs as Philadelphia pitcher Roy Oswalt earned his first career victory over Atlanta.

Oswalt (2-0) gave up five hits and two runs, one earned, in six innings. The Braves were the only National League team Oswalt had not beaten.

Prosecutor's close in Bonds trial swings momentum

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Prosecutors were down to their last chance, and possibly losing the case.

Several apparent setbacks, culminating with the disastrous testimony of one of their main witnesses, had created a consensus that most—if not all—of the Barry Bonds perjury case had slipped through the government's fingers after nearly three weeks of trial.

Then Assistant U.S. Attorney Matt Parrella took to the lectern Thursday to deliver the government's final word through his closing argument.

"There's a real irony to this case," Parrella said minutes before the judge turned the case over to the jury for deliberations.

His simple pitch: Do you believe that a professional athlete of Bonds' caliber would gullibly take unknown creams and liquids supplied by a sometimes

homeless gym rat - his personal trainer Greg Anderson?

Bonds faces three charges of lying to a grand jury in 2003 by denying he knowingly took steroids and human growth hormone from Anderson and by saying no one other than his doctors injected him with anything. He also faces an obstruction of justice count.

The jury deliberated all day Friday and will start work again Monday.

If the panel of eight women and four men convict Bonds, legal analysts and courtroom observers said Parrella's closing argument could very well have secured the deal for the government.

"He did a good job of conveying to the jury the evidence it needed to consider," said Golden Gate University law professor Peter Keane. "He gave a very simple explanation."

Keane and others also said Parrella

made big strides in containing the considerable damage Dr. Arthur Ting appeared to cause the government's case after prosecutors called him to the witness stand March 31.

Ting, Bonds' orthopedic surgeon, contradicted the key government testimony of Steve Hoskins, Bonds' former business partner and estranged childhood friend. Hoskins spent two days on the witness stand during the first week of the trial.

Hoskins testified that he and Ting had as many as 50 conversations about Bonds and steroids. Ting denied having any such conversations, including telling Hoskins that Bonds' 1999 elbow injury was caused by steroids. That testimony surprised prosecutors, who were derided for calling Ting to the witness stand. The momentum of the trial shifted dramatically in favor of Bonds.

Weekend Sports

After a busy March, the sports community slowed down a bit at the start of this month, as rain caused the rescheduling of some outdoor games last week.

The two games in the boys U15 division in the NMIFA youth league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field were rescheduled due to the unplayable weather, while Saipan Little League Baseball also cancelled their Saturday matches.

Over at the Pacific Islands Club hard court, organizers also reset games in Week 2 of the 2011 PIC Tennis Championship.

Cloudy skies and a light shower greeted participants of the 6th Annual Meek and

Rain slows down week

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Mighty Ocean Swim, but the event still pushed through, drawing about 30 swimmers.

Andrew Kimball won the five-kilometer race, Kento Akimaru topped the 3-km swim, and Suzy Kindel prevailed in the 1-km division.

Also moving with their respective matches last week were the 2011 Tan Holdings Mixed/Doubles Badminton Competition, the girls U15 and

boys U18 divisions of the NMIFA league, the Marianas March Against Cancer fundraising golf tournament, the Saipan Major League, and the MISO junior high school softball tilt.

The Tan Holdings badminton contest had its playoff round last week with teams battling for semis tickets. The title games were played last night.

In the girls U15 games at the Hopwood Junior High School

Field, Matansa beat MP United, 6-0, while Paire downed Tan Holdings, 1-0. In the boys U18, MP United and Paire had a 3-3 draw, while Matansa won via forfeit over the Independents.

Over at the Laolo Bay Golf Resort, Juan Lizama bested over 50 golfers in the double-peoria tournament, which aimed to raise funds for MMAC.

In SML, the St. Michael Angels managed to eke out an 11-4

win over the Brewers a few minutes before rain fell at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Still in baseball, IT&E's Big League and Junior League's Fielders and the Majors' Juan S. Tenorio Jets kept the lead in their respective divisions in the Saipan Little League Baseball.

In softball, Hopwood 1 defeated Chacha Junior High School 1, 16-1, to notch the

MISO junior high softball championship, while Natibu remained unbeaten in the Chamolinian league with its 9-0 record.

In off-island news, CNMI junior golfer R.J. Macaranas gained a slot to two world championships and is waiting for one more ticket in another world competition this summer.

While Macaranas is assured of representing the CNMI in two world championships, the locals strikers will not be able to don the Commonwealth's colors in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia in September.

The CNMI gracefully pulled out of the competition to avoid sanctions and complications arising from its participation in the quadrennial event.



Jaja Samonte stretches for a return while teammate Marylyn Montano looks on during a doubles games in the Tan Holdings badminton tournament at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.



A batter swings during the Chamolinian softball league game at the Capital Hill Ballfield.



Participants in the 6th Annual Meek and Mighty Ocean Swim have warm-up swims in the waters off Pacific Islands Club.



Runner-up Steve Jang, center, receives his prize from MMAC chairman Dave Guerrero, left, at the conclusion of the Marianas March Against Cancer golf tournament on Saturday at the Laolo Golf Resort's Caladium Banquet Hall. Also in the photo is Jordon Kosam.



Kento Akimaru runs to the finish line during the 6th Annual Meek and Mighty Ocean held in the waters off Pacific Islands Club last week.



A Tan Holdings player kicks the ball during their game against Paire in the girls U15 division of the NMIFA youth league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



R.J. Macaranas, seen here with the trophies and plaques he won, gained a slot to two world championship events.



Saipan Tribune Sports



28 MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Race eases past Loyola in men's singles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNM coach Jeff Race reasserted his mastery over Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan teaching pro Peter Loyola after nailing a 6-2, 6-3 victory in their title game in the men's open singles division of the 11th Annual PIC Tennis Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.



It was the second time this year that Race defeated Loyola in the men's singles finale. During the 2011 White Coconut Tennis Classic at the American Memorial Park, Race was down, 0-3, but recovered en route to an 8-6 triumph over Loyola.

In their rematch, the much taller Race hit several smashes and went to the net, catching Loyola off guard most of the time and helping the former Pacific Oceania Davis Cup non-playing captain cruise to a straight set win.

The men's open singles victory was the first in three years for Race in the PIC tournament. He lost in the semifinals in 2009 and 2010. Former CNMI

See RACE on Page 26

Jeff Race hits one of his several smashes against Peter Loyola during their men's open singles title game in the PIC tennis tournament at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Back-to-back wins for Butch

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Veteran biker Butch Sublemente had a winning streak over the weekend after ruling two races.

A day after topping Saturday's PIC Bike for Life, Sublemente showed up for the Round the Crown Bike Race

for Japan Relief with the same strong legs and ruled yesterday's fundraiser with the fastest time in the championship course at 56 minutes and 17 seconds.

He was the lone male rider to complete the championship course in less than one hour, more than four minutes ahead of runner-up Lewie Tenorio. Tenorio, who timed in at

See BACK-TO-BACK on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Butch Sublemente celebrates his first place finish in the Crown Bike Race for Japan Relief yesterday at the pavement parking area of Mt. Tapochao.

Fielders take solo lead in Senior League

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The Tan Holdings Fielders notched a pair of wins this weekend at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield to grab the solo lead in the Senior League division of the Saipan Little League Baseball.

The Fielders first posted a 13-2, six inning run-rule victory over St. Michael's Hunters on Friday and then edged former division co-leader Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DL Guerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions, 6-5, on Saturday.

Other Senior League results show CTS Ol'Aces defeating the Rep. Rafael Demapan Heats, 13-3. In the Majors, Juan S. Tenorio-Santiago Jets bested

See FIELDERS on Page 26



Some Juan S. Tenorio-Santiago Jets players congratulate teammate Frankie Lizama after he hammered a three-run homer over the fence in last Wednesday's Majors division make-up game against the Rep. Joseph P. DLGuerrero-Tan Siu Lin-Mike Tenorio Dandan Comets at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield. WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

CNMI vs Vanuatu for 2017 Mini Games

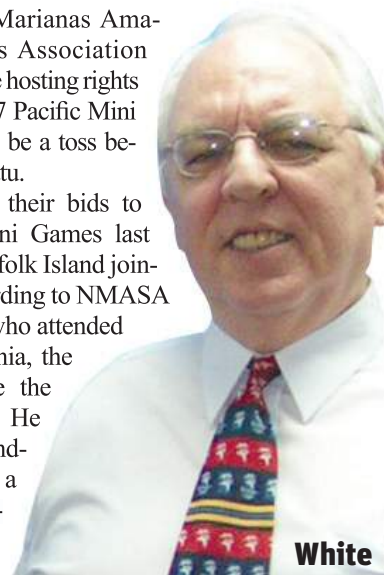
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association believed the hosting rights for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games will be a toss between the CNMI and Vanuatu.

Four nations submitted their bids to host the 2017 Pacific Mini Games last month with Nauru and Norfolk Island joining the list. However, according to NMASA president Michael White, who attended a meeting in New Caledonia, the CNMI and Vanuatu have the most credible bid papers. He said the two other island-nations submitted only a couple of pages of bid documents and they were not

See CNMI on Page 26



White